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BIRTHS.

On the 29th May, at No. 2, Peddar Street, the wife of A. PIERRE MARTY, of a daughter. [1302]

At the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, on the 2nd inst., the wife of J. COYLE, of a daughter. [1326]

On the 2nd instant, at "Wellburn," the Peak, the wife of HERBERT GEORGE DOWLER, of a daughter. [1331]

DEATHS.

On the 26th May, at 2, Victoria View, Kowloon, CHARLES, son of CHARLES and MARTHA CATHERINE GRANT, aged 3 months. [1273]

On the 26th May, at 4, West Terrace, MARIA JOSEPHA ALVES MACHADO, aged 54. (Singapore papers please copy.) [1272]

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 1st May arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, on the 30th May (29 days); the American mail of the 5th May arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 31st May (26 days); the German mail of the 4th May arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, on the 2nd June (29 days); and the Canadian mail of the 11th May arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 2nd June (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

An Imperial decree has been issued authorising the establishment of an Institute for anti-toxin serum at Tokyo.

It is stated that the Russian Government has decided to appoint a paid Consul in Shanghai.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 12th May says:—There have been no fresh cases of plague at An-ping since the 7th inst., but the garrison troops have been temporarily withdrawn.

A collision occurred at Chinkiang on the 25th May between the Indo-China steamer *Taksang* and the China Mining Co.'s steamer *Kungping*, by which both vessels sustained some damage.

The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has addressed the British Minister at Peking praying that the Chamber may be consulted before any agreement is entered into for the increase of the import duties in China.

Telegraphic reports have been received of the wounding of a German officer in the employ of the Viceroy of Nanking, in consequence of which two German gunboats have been sent to Nanking from Shanghai.

The Fire Insurance Association of Shanghai has voted the sum of \$150 as a reward to the detectives and others who were instrumental in securing the arrest and conviction of four of the incendiaries concerned in the fire of the 10th of March at Miller Road, Hongkew.

At the Hongkong Criminal Sessions on the 29th May the trial of Tsan Tai Chap and Lau Wai Chiu, charged with setting fire to their premises at 48, Praya West, was concluded. Both prisoners were found guilty and they were each sentenced to twelve years' hard labour.

The annual meeting of J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited, was held at Shanghai on the 28th May, when the report and accounts were adopted. The net profits for the year amounted to \$4,317, equal to 3.60 per cent. on the capital, as against 1.29 per cent. the previous year. The balance at debit of profit and loss account is reduced to \$11,267.

On the 28th May, the day appointed for the celebration of the Queen's birthday, the statue of Her Majesty erected by the community of Hongkong in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign, was unveiled by H.E. the Governor Sir William Robinson. Upwards of two thousand troops were paraded on the occasion and the ceremony was one of the most brilliant public functions Hongkong has ever known.

The report of the Club Hotel, Limited, Yokohama, for the year ended 31st March last states as follows:—Your directors are pleased to report that the working of the Company during the past year ended 31st March, 1896, has shown an improvement on that of past years. Your directors point out that the assets of the Company stand in the books at the original value, and that more than the sum brought down from last year's working has been spent in repairs and improvements. The gross profit for the past year is \$22,379.38. After providing for the payments for repairs, interest on debentures, and interim dividend of 3 per cent., and writing off certain sums for bad debts and for depreciation, there is a balance of \$8,709.31, out of which it is proposed to pay a further dividend of 4 per cent. on the capital and carry forward \$2,309.31 to the new account.

The *Japan Mail* says:—The much discussed rumour about a contemplated expansion of the scope of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha seems to have been definitely settled. We are told by the *Jiji Shimpō* that, at the Council of the Directors held on the 20th May, it was decided to raise the capital from 8,800,000 yen to 22,000,000 yen; to increase the European service to two sailings a month; to order six more steamers for the line; and, lastly, to procure another batch of six steamers for regular service to America and Australia once every two months. The project will be placed before an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders to be held in June.

The Directorate of the Tientsin-Peking Railway has issued a proclamation to the proprietors of land over which the railroad will have to pass stating that "an Edict had been received, authorising the payment of Tls. 10 per mou, and Tls. 8 extra for every mou of land which contains graves, irrespective of the number, on the land to be purchased by the Railway administration." Had this railway been built by a foreign syndicate prior to the war we should have heard of that official bugbear, *fengshui*; but what has become of this occult science now that the Emperor has sanctioned the matter and the mandarins begin to build over graves themselves?—*N. C. Daily News*.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 10th May says:—The Treaty with Germany has now been received at the Foreign Office, and the Emperor is expected to ratify it in the course of a few days. It will then be sent back to Berlin, where the exchange of ratifications will take place, and it will in due course be promulgated—probably in July. The rumour that provision is made in the Treaty for the retention of the judicial functions of the Consulates is incorrect.

Referring to the statement of the *Times*, telegraphed out by Reuter, that Herr von Brandt, formerly German Minister at Peking, has been appointed adviser for Foreign Affairs to the Tsungli Yamén with the rank of Minister, the *N. C. Daily News* says:—This news was published in the *Shanghai Messenger* some weeks ago, but there was never any foundation for it. Herr von Brandt is now on the river, and is to leave Shanghai finally for home on the 13th June.

A severe gale occurred at Kobe and along the coast on the night of the 20th May. The British ship *Dundee*, which was discharging in Hyogo Bay, dragged her anchor during the night and went ashore near the oil godowns at Wada Point. Two yachts, the *Daisy*, owned by Mr. Birch, and the *Herga*, owned by Messrs. Wilkinson and Gotch, broke away from their moorings and went to pieces on the western Camber, or near there, and other damage was done. The *Agapanthus*, chartered by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the voyage to Europe, encountered the full force of the gale on her way down from Yokohama, and a good deal of damage was done about her decks. The P. & O. steamer *Manila*, which left Kobe on the 20th May, returned at five o'clock next morning with her cargo listed, the port quarter deck carried away, and the starboard boats smashed as well as considerable damage done aboard. The *Federation* had a dreadful time, an account of which will be found in another column.

LOYALTY AND PROSPERITY.

The immense throng which attended the unveiling of the Queen's statue on Thursday and witnessed the magnificent pageant by which the ceremony was attended may well have felt proud of the colony in which they reside and of the Empire of which the colony forms a part. The event came several years behind its proper date, but for that there is a good and sufficient explanation. The order for the statue was placed, and the commission was executed, with all due despatch, but at that time the colony contained no suitable site for it, and it was necessary to wait for the completion of a part of the Praya reclamation, that splendid work which forms such a substantial evidence of the growth and prosperity of the place. It was peculiarly appropriate that the Hon. C. P. CHATER, the originator of the reclamation scheme, should, as the present Chairman of the Jubilee Committee, on Thursday have appeared as the representative of the community to ask Her Majesty's representative to unveil the statue, and as he looked around and saw the fine stretch of ground, virtually the creation of his own brain, with its evidences of being speedily covered with handsome buildings, he may justifiably have experienced some feeling of pride and self-congratulation. On such an occasion even his political opponents would be willing to set on one side differences of opinion on questions of domestic policy and to recognise that however much Mr. CHATER may have been mistaken on the question of local self-government he has at all events been right on the question of the Praya reclamation and has laid the colony under lasting obligations to him.

We need not dwell on the feelings of loyalty and affectionate regard for Her Majesty exhibited by the community on Thursday. Now that the event is passed and the public enthusiasm has found due expression, we may be permitted to dwell on some of the collateral considerations it suggests, more especially the demonstration it afforded of the prosperity of the colony. Seldom has the sun shone on a crowd—we refer to the Chinese as well as to the Europeans—so little touched with the canker of distress and discontent, and if the imaginative persons who at a distance invent tales of the decimation of the population by the plague could have seen the bright and animated throng which surrounded the Queen's statue on Thursday they would have felt themselves covered; in their own minds, with confusion. The brief but graphic contrast drawn by the Governor between the Hongkong of fifty-nine years ago and the Hongkong of to-day was excellently conceived and, as His Excellency remarked, "at the present moment the colony presents a remarkable object lesson to the newly arrived resident or traveller, unequalled in any other part of the world." Of the future prosperity of Hongkong His Excellency said he had not the slightest doubt, and he referred to the certain opening of the West River and of additional ports in China as giving a further impetus in the near future to trade between Great Britain and China, which will necessarily bring with it increased prosperity to Hongkong. The colony at the moment is indeed basking in the sun of prosperity, and there is scarcely a cloud to be discerned on the commercial horizon. But Hongkong has experienced periods of depression in the past and will doubtless be exposed to similar adverse influences in the future, against which it behoves us to beware, profiting by

the painful experience of the past as to the results of over speculation; while, turning to the regulation of the municipal affairs of Victoria, it must be admitted that there is abundant work for the hand of the reformer and that much remains to be done to bring the city up to a proper standard of cleanliness and wholesomeness.

LI HUNG-CHANG AND HIS MISSION.

It is to be feared that before His Excellency LI HUNG-CHANG gets to the end of his travels, we shall, thanks to the interviewer, be wrought into a most hopeless state of muddle with regard to the object of his mission. Of course the public are aware that primarily, at least so far we can rely on any Chinese official utterances, the Ex-Viceroy's visit to Russia was to represent the Emperor of CHINA at the coronation of the CZAR NICHOLAS II. This was an exceptional honour for the Son of Heaven to pay to any ruler of the Western Barbarians; but then Russia, though perhaps somewhat inadvertently, had rendered China a most signal service, having saved for her a great province of Manchuria, which otherwise she would have been compelled to cede to the victorious Japanese. So the greatest mandarin in all the wide Celestial Empire—a man who had had for many years practically the conduct of China's foreign relations and who was of all the astute Chinese officials the most experienced in bluffing them—was told off to try and fool the Muscovite. Whether or not he will succeed in this task we are as yet unable to say, but at any rate he will endeavour to retain the advantages gained by the Marquis TSENG in the last treaty. Great, however, is the interviewer, and it was not long before he began to discover purposes for the aged Chinese statesman's great expedition. After the Coronation is over, we were assured—and Reuter's Agency flashed the news through ten thousand miles of wire—that LI HUNG-CHANG would visit the Courts of the various Treaty Powers with a view to obtaining their sanction to an increase of from five to eight per cent *ad valorem* on the duties levied by China on foreign imports. This was great and important intelligence, and aroused no little interest and some anxiety in the Far East, inasmuch as though the customs duties are light, the inland exactions are very heavy. Later it was rumoured that this formed no part of His Excellency's programme, and possibly this is true, for Li is hardly so energetic as formerly.

Now we are informed, also through Reuter, that Li's mission is not what has been stated—that his mission, apart from "the Coronation festivities, was to study the European systems in view of making reforms in the Government of China. He said that no treaty existed between Russia and China, but that the two countries were entirely in accord, and that he desired similar relations with France." The interviewer appears to have been baffled in his attempt to draw the veteran mandarin into an exposition of his ideas as to the relations between Great Britain and China, but he is evidently hopeful that he or some brother professional will be able to extract the information when His Excellency has visited London. Now, without any great fear of contradiction, out here at least, we think we may characterise this imposing announcement as mere words, idle words. The interviewers evidently do not know LI HUNG-CHANG. They imagine him child-like and bland, quite ready to impart information, and eager to talk. As a matter of fact he is a pastmaster in the art of evading questions. He has a habit

of answering one question by asking another of a totally irrelevant character, and it is quite likely he was cross-examining the reporter on other matters while the latter was fondly imagining that he was filling his note book with important state secrets. When at last brought to the point the Ex-Viceroy never commits himself to any definite statement, and the reporter in the end has to draw upon his imagination for his facts and evolve opinions out of the vaguest generalities. It would require no great stretch of that imagination to fancy the Ambassador had denied the existence of a treaty between Russia and China, or rather he should have said a new treaty—for there are already two or three in existence—and even the cautious Li might not object to state that Russia and China were in accord, or that he hoped equally harmonious relations would be established with France. It must not be forgotten that these supposed statements were made in reply to questions, and that it would not be specially difficult to interpret the replies in a particular manner. We have no intention to accuse interviewers of garbling or misinterpreting the answers laboriously obtained from the Chinese Ambassador, but we wish to point out the folly of attaching undue weight to these telegrams.

No doubt the ex-Viceroy of Chihli will make many observations and acquire much information during his European tour, but it is rather difficult to regard him either in the rôle of reformer or as prompted by any strongly patriotic desire to introduce reforms in the Chinese administration. During his long tenure of almost absolute power in Chihli he did next to nothing either to reform the administration or to check abuses. On the contrary, it is matter of notoriety that his protégés and subordinates were among the most accomplished "squeezers" in the Empire, and he was not above profiting by their corruption. Of course it may be possible that now his fortune has been secured—he has become rich beyond the dreams of avarice out of the spoils of office—His Excellency desires to place temptations out of the reach of former colleagues, and to pose, in his declining years, as a model of official purity. We fear, however, his own countrymen will—whatever contract hunting foreigners may affect to believe—decline to take him seriously in this character, for it certainly does not fit. Neither is anything he may let fall to interviewers concerning China's foreign relations worth serious consideration. Always chary of committing himself, he would be doubly on guard at the present moment, more especially if there is any thought of revising the tariff. While His Excellency is in Russia he will say the things he thinks will be most acceptable to the Russian; when he reaches Paris, he will, if visited by the ever present reporter, let fall phrases designed to tickle French vanity; if he makes a stay in Berlin, he will have a new story framed for German ears; and on arrival in London, he may even recant all he had previously stated or that had been attributed to him and magnify Great Britain at the expense of her rivals. These supposed deliverances of the Chinese Ambassador while on his travels are likely to prove more mischievous than useful, and it will be as well therefore to receive them with caution, subject to flat contradiction by the mail to follow. The too ready acceptance of what is mere idle talk as the inspired utterance of the Representative of China can only create trouble and cause disappointment.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE CHINESE IMPORT DUTIES.

The publication of a summary of the proceedings of the Chamber of Commerce Committee at its monthly meetings and of the correspondence connected therewith is an advantage that is doubtless appreciated by the general body of members and the public at large. From the minutes of the meeting of the 28th May we learn that several important questions have lately engaged attention. The statement that LI HUNG-CHANG was to endeavour, during his visit to Europe, to secure an increase in the import duties on foreign goods in China was at once taken up by the Chamber, who addressed the British Minister at Peking on the subject, requesting that the Chamber might be consulted before any agreement was entered into. Other Chambers will no doubt recognise the advisability of making similar representations, for the matter is one upon which too great vigilance cannot be exercised. LI HUNG-CHANG is himself an astute diplomatist and he will have very able assistance and the benefit of powerful influence in endeavouring to gain his point in Europe; and as the British Foreign Office has on previous occasions and in relation to other matters yielded to Celestial blandishments, it might do the same again if those whose interests are affected do not make themselves heard in the matter. The view taken by the Chamber is that while under certain conditions and guarantees the duties might not unreasonably be subjected to some increase the principle should not be conceded unless it is first laid down that the increased duty is to free the goods absolutely from all further charge throughout the Chinese Empire, that is to say, that, in return for an increased import duty, lekin and squeezes of all descriptions should be abolished. It is urged by apologists for China that the provincial officials cannot possibly do without the revenue derived from lekin, and that, with the exception of the land tax, it is all they have to depend upon. It may at once be granted that in whatever arrangement is come to provision will have to be made to leave the provinces in possession of a revenue sufficient to carry on their administration. Strictly speaking, that is no concern of the foreign Powers, being a question that China should settle for herself, but, under the circumstances, the point cannot be altogether ignored, China being herself incompetent to establish an honest fiscal system and standing in need of foreign assistance and advice in the matter. The existing system is inimical alike to Chinese and foreign interests, for while foreign goods are burdened with oppressive taxation only a fractional part of the amount they have to pay is honestly applied to public purposes, the greater portion of it finding its way into the pockets of a horde of officials and farmers whose only interest is squeezing. In any new arrangement that may be come to the guarantees that the squeezing system should be really abolished would, as the Chamber says, have to be ample, and it is suggested that they should be "similar to those afforded in certain matters by the collection being placed in the hands of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs." It is in this direction that the solution of the whole question must be looked for.

According to the *Courrier d'Haiphong* the Cable Company intends to reduce its rates from the 1st July as follows:—From Tonkin to Hongkong from f.1.20 per word to f.0.75 and to France from f.7.80 to f.4.10.

A SPIRIT FARM AS A SOURCE OF REVENUE.

Some time ago Hongkong was threatened with the establishment of a Spirit Farm, but happily the danger was averted. Singapore, less fortunate than Hongkong in that respect, has had a Spirit Farm for many years past, and now it is proposed to endow the Farmer with additional powers which are calculated to interfere very considerably with the freedom of the port. Governor Sir CHARLES MITCHELL, in the course of a debate on the new Bill in the Legislative Council, said, "The Spirit Farmer is 'the Customs officer here.'" That the Farmer should be officially described as a Customs officer may be taken as some indication of the danger of setting up such a monopolist, and although we are not at the moment threatened with anything of the kind in Hongkong it is perhaps well that we should take note of what befalls our neighbours in order that we may be on our guard for the protection of that freedom of the port which has so materially contributed to its prosperity. *Prima facie* no more appropriate subject for taxation could be found than spirits; the only objection, but a vital one in a port which professes to be free, is the difficulty of collecting the tax. An Opium Farm is bad enough; a Spirit Farm would be ten times worse. The particular section in the Singapore Bill which has chiefly aroused the alarm of the shipping community provides that a list of all spirituous and fermented liquors, both of those forming part of the ship's stores, and those not forming part of the ship's stores or provisions, shall be prepared by the master of the ship and handed to the Farmer, to whom right of inspection is given. It is urged that this would establish a whole system of the most annoying type of custom house formalities, accompanied by espionage and search, enforced at the discretion of a Chinese Farmer. Under those circumstances it would not be altogether inappropriate to describe the Farmer as the Customs officer, for he would be so in effect, though not in name, and that seems to have been all that Sir CHARLES MITCHELL meant. It was urged in the Legislative Council that ocean steamers should be exempt. The Governor said he could not agree that it was possible to make a distinction between ocean steamers and other steamers. Mr. SHELTON thereupon said he was sure the French steamers would deeply resent the Farmer going aboard and demanding their accounts; and to that the Governor replied:—"Why should a French steamer object, any more than an English steamer going to Saigon. The Spirit Farmer is the Customs officer here." Still the fact remains that not only French steamers, but all nationalities alike would object to the exercise by a Chinese monopolist of powers which would be submitted to as a matter of course at the hands of properly accredited Customs officers. A private meeting of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce has been held and an alternative proposal is to be made to the Government which it is hoped will overcome the difficulty which has been raised. The only really satisfactory solution, however, would be the total abolition of the Spirit Farm, but as that would involve a considerable loss of revenue it is not likely to be adopted. The experience of Singapore ought to strengthen Hongkong's determination to have nothing to do with anything in the shape of a Spirit Farm.

INCENDIARISM AND ITS SUPPRESSION.

The exemplary sentence passed by the Chief Justice on the two men convicted at the Criminal Sessions of arson is calculated to have an excellent effect. The crime by which TSAN SAI-CHAP and LAU WAI-CHUI sought to enrich themselves at the expense of the insurance companies is terribly common in Hongkong and is responsible for a large proportion of the fires that occur in the city. The Fire Inquiries Bill did a good deal to check it, the passing of that useful measure being followed by a marked decline in the number of fires. The gradual improvement of the fire extinguishing arrangements, by rendering more difficult the successful accomplishment of incendiary designs, has probably also had some effect in the same direction. The crime has never been really suppressed, however, and of late it seems to have shown signs of becoming more rife than it has been, for some years past, the evidence in several cases that have occurred recently not only raising suspicions but conclusively demonstrating that the outbreaks were not accidental in their nature. But, although it may be quite clear that a house has been intentionally set on fire, it is never an easy thing to bring the guilt home to individuals in such a way as to lead to a conviction in a criminal court. In all cases of this description the evidence is almost necessarily of a circumstantial character only, and on evidence of that description juries are loth to convict. In the case decided on Friday, however, the evidence, although merely circumstantial, was, in the opinion of the jury, conclusive, and the result was that the two prisoners were each sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment with hard labour. As the Chief Justice very truly remarked, "a case of this kind is very hard to prove, and when it is proved the Court must deal with it very severely." The effect of the sentence will be to terrorise would-be incendiaries, for a time at all events, and to bring about a falling off in the number of fires. Something in the same direction may perhaps also be accomplished by the Fire Insurance Association, which has now been in existence twelve months. Happily the cut-throat competition which prevailed until recently has been abandoned, and the increase in rates will have some tendency to deter persons from insuring with fraudulent intent, on the same principle that an increase in the price of lottery tickets would interfere with their sale; but in addition to this the Association may do some good by the exchange of information amongst its members as to suspicious characters who grow fat by repeated fires on their premises. But the greatest protection to the community, alike from incendiaryism and from conflagrations originating in pure accident, is an abundant water supply. It has now been clearly demonstrated that the Tytam supply cannot be permanently relied upon for fire extinguishing purposes, and we must look for an increased supply in other directions. The old scheme of fire tanks mooted many years ago seems worthy of reconsideration.

It having been reported at Haiphong that Chinese and native contractors would be permitted to tender for the earthworks of the proposed railways in Tonkin, a meeting of the Haiphong Chamber of Commerce was held at which a resolution was passed expressing the view that the Government should exclude from all competitions for the execution of public works all Asiatics, even though naturalised, and all foreigners.

UNVEILING THE QUEEN'S STATUE.

A MAGNIFICENT CEREMONY.

On the afternoon of the 28th May His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G., performed the ceremony of unveiling the statue of Her Majesty the Queen, which has been erected by the people of Hongkong in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign. The ceremony was really the completion of the Jubilee celebrations of nine years ago. In 1887 the residents of Hongkong fittingly and most loyally commemorated the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's reign, and it was then thought that a statue of the Queen should be erected in the colony. The suggestion was followed by practical action. A Committee was formed, subscriptions rolled in, the commission for the statue was sent to England, and in 1890 the work of the sculptor, Signor M. Raggi, was completed. The statue was exhibited in London and then forwarded to Hongkong. But in order to have the statue erected upon the most suitable site in the colony it was necessary to wait until part of the New Reclamation was finished, and it is to this that the long but unavoidable delay has been due. Some months ago the site for the statue was decided upon and yesterday was very appropriately fixed for the celebration of Her Majesty's seventy-seventh birthday and the unveiling of the Jubilee Commemoration Statue by His Excellency the Governor. At sunrise all the ships in the harbour were gaily dressed and at noon the usual salutes were fired from the British and foreign men-of-war in the harbour and also from the shore battery. But of course it was the afternoon ceremony that everyone in the colony looked forward to with whetted appetites, the outcome of a fervent and loyal regard for our Queen.

The arrangements for the ceremony were on a very extensive scale, and it says much for the tactful management of Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, the Honorary Secretary to the movement, and those gentlemen who assisted him, particularly in the reception of the guests at the grand stand, that there was no hitch whatever in the proceedings. Invitations to witness the ceremony were issued to as many people as possible, irrespective of position, calling, or nationality. The grand stand, which was erected by Mr. Danby, accommodated just over a thousand people, for all of whom chairs were provided. The police arrangements, too, were very carefully made by Mr. H. B. Lethbridge, the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, and they worked quite smoothly, there being, owing to the admirable instructions issued to the force, no undue crushing at any point.

The ceremony was timed to commence at 5.30. At 4.30 ticket-holders began to arrive, and at 5 o'clock most of the seats which had been specially reserved for officials were occupied. At 5.15 the sight from the grand stand was certainly the most picturesque ever witnessed in the colony. The mighty King of Day shone in all his glory; Queen's weather undoubtedly it was, and a gentle breeze pleasantly tempered the powerful rays of the sun, which, however, did not play into the grand stand for very long after the guests commenced to arrive, as the rattan covering acted as a very welcome shield. Every British official in the colony was present, and those who were privileged to wear uniforms did so, while included amongst the other spectators were all the Consuls in the colony in their respective uniforms and all the principal residents, most of whom were accompanied by ladies. The view looking towards the grand stand was exceedingly pretty, the many and various uniforms of the officials and the ladies' dresses being a sight to dwell upon. Immediately over the space reserved for His Excellency the Governor was the coat of arms surmounted by the Crown, and the Union Jack, while the Royal Standard proudly showed itself a little behind. Directly opposite the centre of the stand was the statue, which was hidden from view by the Royal Standard, and on the steps palms and ferns, which were supplied by Mr. Ford, served to heighten the picturesqueness of the view.

The two thousand troops were all in position at five o'clock and presented a very fine appearance. Then, at some distance behind, was the crowd of spectators who were not provided with tickets. And such a crowd too! There were thousands upon thousands present and if the tremendous throng be an index to the extent of the loyalty of Hongkong residents, that loyalty must indeed be in the uttermost depths of their hearts. Standing on the hillocks of stones near the New Reclamation offices was a very big throng of sightseers who were evidently determined to obtain as good a view as possible of the gorgeous panorama before them. In addition thousands of Chinese assembled in the neighbourhood of the cricket field, and, looking further behind, one could see that all the verandahs commanding a view of the site were filled with people who certainly had a magnificent spectacle to feast upon. Such a blaze of colour and such a vast crowd in so small a circle were never seen before in Hongkong. As the time for the commencement of the proceedings drew near the troops were stationed in the places assigned to them, and one particularly interesting feature in the display was the presence in front of the statue of two men drawn from each of the corps in the colony. By a quarter past five everything was in readiness for the reception of His Excellency the Governor, and an eager look-out was kept for the first signs of his approach. A minute or two before 5.30—His Excellency is always punctual in keeping his engagements—he was observed at the top of Wardley Street, and by the time the clock had struck the half hour His Excellency, with his staff, had arrived in the grand stand. As soon as he was seen the troops smartly shouldered arms and on reaching the statue His Excellency was met by the members of the Jubilee Committee at present in the colony, viz.—Hon. C. P. Chater, Chairman and hon. treasurer; Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, hon. secretary; Hon. E. R. Bellios, Hon. Ho Kai, Messrs. T. Jackson, J. J. Francis, Q. C., H. N. Mody, A. P. MacEwen, Wai Yuk, Ho Amei, and Li Shing. Simultaneously with the reception by the Committee the Royal Standard was unfurled and there was a momentary pause while photographs were taken.

Hon. C. P. Chater then addressed His Excellency and said—Your Excellency, as Chairman of the Jubilee Committee, and on behalf of the community of the colony, I have the great honour of asking you to meet us to-day for the purpose of unveiling the statue of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. I need not enlarge upon the interest, the fervent and loyal interest, which the residents of this island take in this ceremonial. I need not state that we are met together to discharge a most unusual and exceptional function. I need hardly remind you, sir, that the event which has given birth to these proceedings is one which, only a few years ago, stirred to the depths the hearts of the British race in every quarter of the world, for was not that event the Jubilee of Our Most Gracious Sovereign? If any proof were needed of the feeling which dominates us at the moment, I would ask you to look at this concourse of Her Majesty's subjects, gathered here to offer their loyal and respectful homage to the Throne. I would ask you to look at the Representatives of the other Powers, who, with fellow-countrymen of theirs, who are resident here, have come to do honour to this auspicious event. Your Excellency, as we all know, Her Majesty's Jubilee occurred in the year 1887, and it will perhaps be not unfitting if I mention the reason why this statue has not been erected before. It was not because Hongkong was one whit behind other British colonies in wishing to prove its dutiful regard for Her who reigns over us; it was not because we did not desire to have in our midst a memento of the ruler to whom we owe allegiance. No, sir. It was because we recognised that such a statue as this should be placed in an appropriate and conspicuous spot, a spot worthy, if that could be so, by its very position to do honour to the occasion, and until this great work, this reclamation on which we are now standing, was practically finished, we had no such place to offer. Under your Government this portion of the reclamation has now been happily accomplished, and here in

this commanding position, in the best part of this city, named after our Queen, we feel that our statue could find, in all this island, no more ennobling site. Sir, with the exception of Newfoundland, which was occupied about 1500, it was not until the early part of the 17th century that Great Britain first began to colonise in earnest. Thenceforward, however, down to the present time, colony after colony was acquired. Gauged by the test existing to-day, her earlier acquisitions were; in the nature of things, comparatively unimportant; but England's colonies have strengthened with England's strength, and grown with her commercial prosperity and power, until, one possession after another emerging from its incipient doubts and difficulties, they have gained their present status, and culminated in forging the magnificent chain which, starting from the Mother Country, now girdles the earth with British soil. Of this chain Hongkong forms one of the links; a strong and a lasting one, we may be permitted to hope, and to those assembled here, and to you, sir, as their Governor, it cannot but be interesting to remember that, after Her Majesty's accession to the throne, this was the first colony that Great Britain acquired. Your Excellency, it is not possible to predict from the shadows which the future is casting before what Hongkong will yet develop into. It is not possible to surmise with any accuracy the part which will ultimately be allotted to her to play in the international theatre of the world. These questions lie in the womb of the future, and the future alone can answer them; but that she is destined to be always an important factor in both Imperial and local concerns, I for one have no doubt whatever. Such is her natural position, lying, as she does, on the fringe of the adjacent Empire; such is her mercantile value, being, as she is, the Eastern gate through which must pass the commerce of the West, that it is hardly too much to believe that she must of necessity always constitute an element to be carefully and fully weighed. Great and important movements have lately taken place in the Far East, possibly greater and more important changes yet are even now in contemplation which will enforce the gravest attention of diplomacy, and Her Majesty's Government, in its decision upon those events, in its determination of the path to pursue, can hardly omit Hongkong from its serious consideration. In saying this, I do not forget that her place in the colonies of the Crown, if won in some part by her own vigour, is largely due to her standing in line with those other colonies which together constitute the brotherhood known to-day as Greater Britain. Sir, in the evolution of time generation will succeed generation in Hongkong, new firms will arise, new projects will be formed; new personalities will seek to advance the colony's influence and promote her enterprise long after names familiar enough now have vanished into the past and been forgotten. Yet will this statue remain, to impress upon those who follow us the rights and privileges which, under British laws, they will ever enjoy, the security which the British Constitution throws over those who live within the sphere of its protection, and above all, sir, the freedom, the greatest benefit perhaps that mankind has ever known, which exists to-day, and always must exist, beneath the royal standard of Great Britain. I now ask your Excellency to unveil the statue.

At the conclusion of Mr. Chater's address Mr. Bowdler went across to the statue and returned with the cord, which he handed to His Excellency for the purpose of unveiling the statue.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have accepted with great pleasure the invitation of the Jubilee Committee, and of the loyal community of Hongkong, to unveil this statue of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. I feel highly honoured at having to take so prominent a part in this interesting function, and am glad to think that my name will for all time be connected with it. This immense concourse of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, and of the Representatives of other Powers with their fellow-countrymen, is a sight which will never be forgotten by those who are witnessing it. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, this statue is to commemorate the Jubilee of Her Majesty in 1887. Let me therefore

moment compare the past of Hongkong with the present. Fifty-nine years ago Hongkong was a barren rock inhabited by 200 or 300 persons. The harbour was unfrequented by vessels. At the present moment the colony presents a remarkable object lesson to the newly arrived resident or traveller, unequalled, I believe, in any other part of the world. He sees before him large and, in some cases, magnificent banks, city halls, and houses of business stretching for several miles along the sea front. Inland he sees rising tier above tier hundreds of fine houses built by and for the thriving merchants of the city. The harbour which fifty-nine years ago was nearly empty of shipping is now filled by steamers and sailing vessels which represent an aggregate capacity of some 15,000,000 of tons per annum. This wonderful growth has taken place during the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. And in the place of a few hundred people, Hongkong has now a population of over 250,000 souls. Of these about 240,000 are Chinese. They live here under no compulsion. They are freemen, and are attracted by our liberal institutions and by the equitable treatment and justice of Her Majesty's rule. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, of the future prosperity and growth of Hongkong I have not the slightest doubt. Her geographical position, her importance as a great emporium of trade and a strong military and naval station in that girdle of British colonies which encircles the world, is fully recognized by Her Majesty's Government. The opening of the West River, and of additional free ports in China, will give a further impetus to trade between Great Britain and that enormous and undeveloped Empire. Such measures, which can be regarded as certain of fulfilment in the near future, will be of inestimable value to millions of the subjects of the Emperor of China as well as to the able and energetic community of Hongkong. In conclusion, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I congratulate you on the selection of this fine site for Her Majesty's statue, and I also congratulate you heartily on the excellent arrangements which you have made for giving to this auspicious and unprecedented event an importance and significance which it alone could deserve. With the words on my lips of God Save the Queen I now unveil this statue.

As His Excellency pulled the cord and so raised the Royal Standard, presenting the statue to the full view of everyone present, lusty cheers were raised as the people, lifting their gaze, "love-lit and reverent as befits the time," saw the statue of our beloved ruler. A *feu-de-joie* was fired by the troops, "God Save the Queen" was played by the bands of the Rifle Brigade and the Hongkong Regiment, and then the *Victor Emanuel* fired a salute and the troops and all the officers gave a royal salute. The firing over Colonel Anstey called for "Three cheers for Her Majesty the Queen" and a ringing response was given.

These manifestations of loyalty concluded, preparations were quickly made for the march past. The steps leading to the statue were occupied by the combined bands and they formed a very picturesque group. They played stimulating marches as the troops filed past His Excellency in the following order—Royal Navy and Marine Light Infantry, 135 men, under Commander Tunnard and Captain Trotman respectively; Royal Artillery, British 215 men, Hongkong Companies 255 men, under Major Hanham; Royal Engineers, 89 men, under Captain McQuhae; Hongkong Volunteers, 75 men, under Captain Gordon; Hongkong Regiment, 618 men, under Major Retallick; Local Engineers (Chinese) 47 men; Rifle Brigade, 818 men, under Major the Hon. E. Noel. Each corps was warmly cheered on passing the saluting point, and when the last soldier had gone by the people dispersed, having witnessed one of the grandest and most imposing ceremonies seen in Hongkong.

An inspection was then made of the statue, which is situated on the New Praya Reclamation at the junction of Wardley Street and the new street to be constructed from Murray Pier to Pedder Street. It is erected on a base 29 feet square, elevated about seven feet above the road level, and reached by flights of

granite steps. The statue is of bronze and represents Her Majesty in a sitting posture facing the harbour. In her right hand, which is taken from an actual cast of the Queen's hand, she holds the sceptre, while the orb and cross rest in her left hand. The statue is mounted on a stone base six feet in height and is enclosed in a richly carved stone canopy made of specially selected Portland stone, the colour of which improves considerably with age, and it also has the reputation of hardening by exposure to atmospheric influences. Columns of the lower Corinthian order support the canopy and the half of each shaft is elaborately decorated. The designer and sculptor is Signor M. Raggi, who has a world-wide reputation. He was the designer and sculptor of the famous statue of Lord Beaconsfield in Parliament Square, London, of the statue of Her Majesty the Queen in Bombay, and also of the equestrian statue of the Prince of Wales at Bombay, while locally he is known as the designer and sculptor of Sir Arthur Kennedy's statue in the Botanical Gardens. The present statue has been executed with thoughtful care and it will always serve as a conspicuous and fitting memento of the affectionate loyalty of the residents of Hongkong, by whom the cost was mainly defrayed. Messrs. H. Young and Co., the celebrated art founders, of Pimlico, London, cast the statue. This firm has the reputation of casting the largest bronze figures ever cast in one piece and at one running, viz., the huge "sphinxes" on the Thames Embankment. The erection of the statue was carried out by the Public Works Department under the immediate supervision of Mr. E. Bowdler. Its total height is 59 feet, 9 inches. In 1891 the statue was exhibited at the Horse Guards in London, and at that time the sculptor's work won much admiration. But while nothing but praise can be accorded to Signor Raggi for the beautiful treatment of his commission we cannot help thinking that a stone standing figure of Her Majesty would have been preferable under the circumstances. The front view of the structure is very artistic but what can be said in favour of the sombre slab of bronze which forms the back of the chair as seen from the other side? However, perhaps we ought not to complain now. "When remedies are past, the griefs are ended by seeing the worst," and people must view the statue from the front only, or, should they venture to the other side, they must cast criticism to the winds when examining the back of the chair. In conclusion we would like to commend for the consideration of the public the advisability of erecting a statuette at each corner of the structure. These statuette, which of course would have to be designed and executed in harmony with the central edifice, might represent, say, Art, Science, Literature, and Commerce, and they would certainly complete the artistic effect of this handsome memorial.

TELEGRAM TO HER MAJESTY.

The following telegram was addressed to the Secretary of State by H.E. the Governor on Thursday afternoon:—

Hongkong, 28th May, 1896.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, London. Hongkong community presents its respectful duty to Her Majesty the Queen.

I have this afternoon unveiled Jubilee Statue to Her Majesty erected on recently completed portion of reclamation.

Immense concourse of people; upwards of two thousand Naval, Military, and Volunteers. Magnificent spectacle, great enthusiasm. Chater Chairman Jubilee Committee. ROBINSON.

THE STATE OF PARADE.

The following table gives the numbers of troops present on the occasion of the Queen's Birthday parade and of those absent and sick:—

Detail.	Present on Parade.			Absent and sick.		
	Off. cers.	Others.	Total.	Off. cers.	Others.	Total.
Staff	3	1	4	3	2	5
Royal Artillery:—						
British	7	208	215	5	54	59
Hongkong Cos.	8*	247	255	4	187	191
Royal Engineers	6	139†	145	4	36	40
1st Bn. R. Brigade. 14	804	818	13	194	207	
Hongkong Regt.	17†	601	618	10	382	392
H'kong Volunteers. 10	65	75	2	43	45	
Totals	85	2,065	2,150	41	898	939

* Includes 6 native officers. † Includes 47 Chinese.

‡ Includes 11 native officers.

WHY THE STATUE IS IN BRONZE INSTEAD OF MARBLE.

The predominant feeling with reference to the Queen's statue is one of disappointment. We refer of course to the statue itself, not to the ceremony attending the unveiling, which was in every respect successful and satisfactory. It was originally intended that the statue should be in marble, and that it was ultimately cast in bronze was due to an unfortunate misunderstanding, not to considerations of climate, which were only introduced subsequently. As a matter of fact, marble, under a canopy, would probably have stood the climate of Hongkong as well as the climate of Greece itself. Bronze under a canopy is an anomaly and is repulsive alike to common sense and artistic feeling. But, unfortunately, when the question of bronze or marble had finally to be decided the fact that the statue was to be under a canopy was lost sight of, and, moreover, had the decision at that stage been in favour of marble a heavy additional expenditure would have been incurred. The nature of the misunderstanding is explained in the following letter, addressed to the Press at the time by the Hon. J. J. Keswick:—

Sir,—Some misunderstanding having arisen regarding the statue of Her Majesty the Queen, and as it is desirable that the colony should be made fully aware of the position, the Committee request me to approach them through the medium of the Press.

Signor Raggi tendered for the completion of a statue of Her Majesty the Queen in bronze or in marble for the sum of £5,500. It was decided at the public meeting held in Hongkong that the statue should be in marble and Her Majesty approved of the work in that form. Through some unfortunate misunderstanding, not comprehensible at the moment, Signor Raggi was left under the impression that his offer for a bronze statue was accepted and he proceeded with the necessary preparations for casting it, incurring an expenditure of time and trouble which he estimates at £1,500. The mistake was only discovered within the last few months, and the question to be determined by the Committee and the public is whether he shall be allowed to proceed with and complete the statue in bronze, or be paid for his loss of time and labour and requested to execute the work in marble?

The majority of the Committee think that it is neither necessary nor desirable to incur this outlay, and many persons indeed would be of opinion that in this country bronze is preferable, as less likely to be disfigured by the influences of climate, but the Committee do not feel that they should come to any decision without letting subscribers know how matters stand.

I have therefore to ask your good offices in bringing the subject before the public, and should there be any desire to have it discussed I will call a meeting forthwith.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman,

Queen's Jubilee Memorial Committee.
Hongkong, 11th March, 1896.

OUTRAGE AT NANKING.

A GERMAN OFFICER WOUNDED.

GERMAN MEN-OF-WAR DESPATCHED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
SHANGHAI, 2nd June, 8.17 p.m.

It is reported that a German officer has been killed at Nanking.

The *Princess Wilhelm* and the *Itis* are leaving for Nanking to-night.

THE VICTIM RECOVERING.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
SHANGHAI, 3rd June, 6.43 p.m.

The name of the German officer attacked at Nanking is Krause. He was not killed, but is severely wounded, and is recovering.

The city is quiet.

SUPREME COURT.

27th May.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE.)

THE ARSON CASE.

The hearing was resumed of the charge of arson brought against Tsung Sai Chap and Lau Wai Chin, masters of 48, Praya West, on which premises a fire broke out on the 22nd April last.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General) and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson, Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Hastings, of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office) defended the prisoners.

Mr. R. K. Leigh, civil engineer and architect, said that he had had a practical experience of fires and he had made a careful examination of the premises at 48, Praya West. He found augur holes drilled in the first floor and from what he had seen of the charred portions of the rooms he was of opinion that the flames could not have stretched as they did by merely going through the holes; there must have been either inflammable material near the holes or a separate fire. The only source of communication of the fire from the first to the second floor was through the holes. On the ground floor there were two sources of fire.

In closing the case for the prosecution Mr. Francis said three Chinese witnesses who were called at the Police Court were in attendance if the learned counsel for the defence wished to call them.

Mr. Robinson—Are they tendered for cross-examination?

Mr. Francis—No.

Mr. Robinson—Then—

Mr. Francis—My Lord, it is in accordance with the practice of the Court. I have raised the point very frequently in defending prisoners and it has been decided that the Crown need not put witnesses into the box or tender them for cross-examination.

His Lordship (to Mr. Robinson)—If you want them they can be called and you can make them your witnesses.

The Acting Attorney-General—The witnesses are here, my Lord.

Mr. Robinson—They are not tendered.

The Acting Attorney-General—My learned friend can have them if he wants them.

Mr. Robinson—I do not know what your Lordship may think about the practice in these cases, but under the circumstances I intend to call only one witness, Mr. Denison, to give technical evidence, and if there is anything the prisoners would like to say I think this would be the right time for them to make a statement if they wish. The practice in England has varied. In a recent number of the *Nineteenth Century* there is an article by Sir Herbert Stephen in which he deals with, among other points, this point. He says that many eminent judges have adopted the course I have suggested as the best for prisoners; that if they wish they should make a statement at the opening of the defence and before the speech of the counsel. I concur in that opinion and submit it as the best practice for your Lordship's consideration.

His Lordship—I think it is the most convenient course to have the statement before counsel addresses the jury.

Each prisoner, when asked if he wished to say anything, replied "I did not set fire to the shop."

Mr. Denison then gave evidence and spoke to the appearance of the premises on the 19th inst. when he first visited them. He did not see two certain holes spoken to by the prosecution in the floor, but on the 26th inst. when he again went there, he saw the holes, which had been made with a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch augur. He could not swear, but it was his opinion that the holes were bored through between the 19th and 26th inst. He found fresh sawdust on the floor and the top parts of the holes were clean.

In cross-examination by Mr. Francis, witness said that on the 19th the floor was covered with

dirt, dust, and paper and he did not have them swept away. He did not think it likely that the presence of this dirt prevented him from seeing the holes. He did not know that Inspector Witchell and Sergeant Macaulay had given evidence at the Police Court, before the 26th inst., of the existence of the holes.

Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor, spoke to visiting the premises on the 24th of last month. He then saw only two holes, and did not see the other two until a later visit.

In answer to Mr. Francis witness said that the floor was covered with dirt on the 24th April.

It was nearly six o'clock when the whole of the evidence was concluded and Mr. Robinson said he would rather not address the jury that evening if his Lordship did not intend to sit later. He was afraid his address would be rather a long one.

His Lordship told the jury that his hopes of finishing that night could not be fulfilled, as the address of the counsel for the defence, the reply of the Crown counsel, and the summing up would take a considerable time, and it was therefore hardly fair to the learned counsel, or to himself, or to the prisoners, to unduly hasten the conclusion of the case.

29th May.

Mr. Robinson addressed the jury for the defence and said he approached the case with the feeling that the circumstances were not ideal; but those circumstances, in so far as they were not ideal, were not due to the jury, but to the state of the law. It was laid down in the Jury Consolidation Ordinance of 1887, sections 12 and 27, that wherever it should be necessary to summon a special jury in civil or criminal cases, in civil cases the number of jurors drawn from the ballot shall be twenty-four and in criminal cases only twelve. It was also provided, in section 27, that no person who shall be put upon his trial either for treason, felony, or misdemeanour, shall be allowed to challenge any of the jurors except for cause. Counsel could not help thinking that this was a most unfortunate state of the law in a small colony like this, and looking at the date of the Ordinance he saw it was passed during the Attorney-Generalship of Sir Edward O'Malley, and he thought that if the matter were gone into, it would be found that that eminent lawyer must have been having a vacation at the time of the passing of the Ordinance and that this measure was in the hands of a *locum tenens*. If this had been a civil case twenty-four names would have been drawn from the box, and counsel on each side, without word or question, would have struck out six names. The remaining twelve would have been called and could have been challenged on cause shown. He could not believe that so constitutional a lawyer as Sir Edward O'Malley had, while leaving to the Crown its common law right to challenge, taken away from the subject a similar right that exists in England in the case of felony. It was a most unfortunate state of the law to limit the panel in criminal cases and to take away the right of making a challenge, because it might happen that a jury might be called upon to try an unpopular man, say like the late Robert Fraser Smith, and it could be well understood how he would feel to see juror after juror coming up and knowing that, while he did not think they would be unfair towards him, he would rather have another set of men to try his case. Counsel hoped the law would be altered in this respect and put back to what it was before the Ordinance was passed. Such a procedure would be in the interests of the subject who might be falsely charged. It was only proper that fair justice should be administered. In England a jury was drawn from towns of 20,000 to 1,000,000 inhabitants and the right of peremptory challenge was given to a prisoner, and there was no reason why that right should be withdrawn in the case of a small community like Hongkong. He appealed confidently to the jury to consider the case calmly and dispassionately with a mind unswayed by any prepossessions against the prisoners and the class of offence charged against them. Turning to the case counsel said that assuming there had been arson he asked the jury to consider the case against each of the prisoners separately,

Was there evidence to connect both or was there something to connect only one? He freely admitted that if there had been arson suspicion must attach to both partners; but the jury must not proceed upon suspicion, but upon proof. Were the prisoners guilty of arson? It was not a question whether the stuff was there, but when and how it was put there. The accounts showed a very moderate claim for loss by the fire and nothing to show there was any intention to defraud the insurance companies. It might be said that the prisoners were afraid to make a big claim, because they were put under arrest, but they were entitled to fair and honest play and no such suspicion should rest upon them. Counsel granted that there had been foul play in the house, but were the prisoners connected with it? Who bored the new augur holes? It was not a European who had blundered in such a stupid fashion, and the man who bored the holes was also the man who placed the tub of kerosine in the little room. If, as was suggested by the prosecution, the premises had been saturated by kerosine they would certainly have been entirely destroyed. Mr. Leigh had said that he thought the reason why the place was not burnt down was that there was a plentiful supply of water poured upon the fire, but the jury had to consider whether such could be the case if there was so much kerosine about on that night. Counsel, in concluding a long speech, asked the jury to acquit the prisoners.

Mr. Francis summed up at some length the case of the prosecution and referring to the defence that somebody, not the prisoners, had bored the holes and placed a kerosine tin in the small room, said that that person existed only in the imagination of the counsel for the defence. The whole of the circumstances of the case were entirely inconsistent with the theory of the prisoners in respect to the fire and he confidently left the case in the hands of the jury.

His Lordship then summed up and said that the case was a most important one both to the Crown and to the prisoners. It was important to the Crown because it was in the highest degree desirable that when the crime of arson was committed in a large and thriving city like Victoria it should be brought home to the guilty persons. The case was important from the point of view of the defence because this was an offence for which, if the prisoners were found guilty, they would be liable to imprisonment for life. He thought it right to mention that the case had been conducted with much ability by both sides and the Crown had not pressed anything unduly against the prisoners. His Lordship then explained the law to the jury and said they would have to deal with the case on the basis of what is called circumstantial evidence, that is, evidence of circumstances from which the jury were asked to draw certain inferences. They had to decide whether the theory of the prisoners' guilt was a reasonable and probable one to the exclusion of all other reasonable and probable theories. His Lordship then carefully reviewed the evidence.

The jury retired at 5.15 to consider their verdict and returned into Court in five minutes with a unanimous verdict of guilty against the prisoners on both counts.

His Lordship—Tsai Sai Chap and Lau Wai Chui, you have been found guilty unanimously on both counts of the information of this grave offence. You have had a very long and careful trial and I think everything has been done that could be done by your legal adviser. I think myself that the jury have arrived at the right conclusion and that you were guilty of these serious offences. A case of this kind is very hard to prove, and when it is proved the Court must deal with it very severely. The sentence of the Court upon each count of the information is that you be imprisoned for twelve years with hard labour, the sentences to run concurrently.

His Lordship thanked the jury for their patient hearing and excused them from further attendance until the end of the year.

It is notified in Japan that the medical inspection of vessels proceeding to Moji, which in accordance with the notification of 6th April last has hitherto taken place at Shimoda, will in future take place at the nearest medical inspection station.

1st June.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING
PUISNE JUDGE.)
A. GENSBURG v. HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY,
LIMITED.

The plaintiff claimed \$385 for wrongful dismissal.

Mr. McBirney appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. Hastings (of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office) appeared for the defendant Company.

Mr. McBirney said the summons was taken out against the directors of the Company personally, and he wished to substitute the name of the Company.

Mr. McBirney said the plaintiff was a native of Norway and came to this colony from Shanghai about six months ago, when he entered into the service of the defendant Company as steward. He had had considerable hotel experience, having been employed at the Astor House in Shanghai. He was taken on trial at the Hongkong Hotel at a salary of \$50 a month with board and lodging. The directors at the time of the engagement told him that if he did not suit them he would be discharged, but if he did suit them he would be kept on. About a month afterwards the directors informed him that they had considered his conduct and the manner in which he had discharged his duties and had decided to raise his salary to \$75 a month. About four months after that, just as the busy season had concluded, the directors told him that they did not want him any longer and that he could go about his business. He did not know the cause of this instant dismissal, as the directors had said he had not misconducted himself, and as it would be very difficult for him to get another situation he claimed a month's wages and damages.

Andrian Gensberg, the plaintiff, supported the opening statement and said he was engaged as dining room steward. He was told that if he proved suitable he would be kept on, but if he did not he would be discharged. On the 20th May he was told by the directors that they had to cut down their expenses as the summer season was coming on and guests were getting fewer. He asked to be allowed to stay in the hotel until he obtained another situation as he was a married man, and Mr. Parfitt said "You have got to get out to-morrow." He would not allow witness to take away his clothes, as he owed \$25 in chits for drinks. One night there was a fire in the pantry and witness was the only man who could extinguish it. The fire lasted one hour and a suit of clothes he was wearing was damaged. He was never thanked for his services.

Cross-examined—He applied for the position on the 13th December last. He first saw Mr. Wilcox, and he settled matters with Mr. Osborne, who told him the terms on which he would be engaged, and said that the Company had had trouble with their employees in the past. Witness was not told that he would be subject to dismissal at twenty-four hours' notice, but that if he was not suitable he would be dismissed. Mr. Osborne did not tell him that all the employees were engaged subject to dismissal at a day's notice. He requested the Board to raise his salary. He did not threaten to leave. He said if he did not get a rise he would have to look for something else as he was a married man. When dismissed he was told that business was getting slack, and therefore a dining room steward was not required. He was paid his salary up to the date of his discharge and also a gratuity of \$25. He had been occupying a bedroom in the hotel since the date of his discharge; therefore he was not turned out at a day's notice. He believed he owed \$23.74 in chits.

Mr. Hastings, for the defence, said the plaintiff was engaged by Mr. Osborne, on behalf of the defendant Company, on the 16th December last upon special terms. The Company had had trouble with their employees and as they did not want to keep men on longer than they were wanted all the servants were engaged on the express understanding that the agreement could be terminated at twenty-four hours' notice on either side. The plaintiff accepted employment on these terms, and on the 20th May he was no longer required as the summer season was coming on. There was a set-off against him

for the amount of the outstanding chits and also for the bedroom he had occupied since the date of his dismissal, but if the verdict was in favour of the defendant Company they did not wish to proceed with the set-off.

Mr. E. Osborne, one of the directors of the Company, was then called and he said the plaintiff was engaged after being told that he would be subject to twenty-four hours' notice. He thoroughly understood the terms. He was paid his wages up to the date of his dismissal and also a retiring allowance of \$25. When dismissed he said it was very hard to be turned away at a moment's notice, and when told that those were the terms upon which he was engaged he did not deny it.

Cross-examined—Witness did not think the Company would have been a cent the worse if they had not engaged plaintiff. There was nothing to complain about in his attention to the guests. Witness could not go so far as to say that the hotel ranked as high as a first class hotel in London, such as the Trafalgar Hotel. It was the first hotel in Hongkong. He considered the arrangement was a fair one, as it was the directors' duty not to burden the shareholders with employees longer than was necessary. Their duty was to the shareholders first and employees last. He did not remember that the agreement was that if the plaintiff was not suitable he would be discharged at a moment's notice; the words very likely were "if it suited the directors" he would be discharged.

Mr. Parfitt gave corroborative evidence and in answer to his Lordship said the last steward was engaged upon the same terms as the plaintiff.

Mr. McBirney submitted that the plaintiff was justified in thinking that he was pretty well settled in his place after getting an increase, and therefore he was entitled to a month's notice.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, said he had to decide what were the terms upon which the plaintiff was engaged, and he was of opinion that the claim must fail. The agreement to give twenty-four hours' notice was a mutual one and therefore judgment must be for the defendant Company.

THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the Committee, held at the Chamber's room on the 28th May—Present: Messrs. A. McConachie (Vice-Chairman), G. B. Dodwell, N. J. Ede, N. A. Siebs, H. Smith, T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

The Minutes of the last monthly and two special meetings were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBERS.

Messrs. W. G. Humphreys and Co., F. Blackhead and Co., Harling, Buschmann & Menzoll, Sander and Co., and Mr. Edward Robinson were elected members of the Chamber.

NEW COMMITTEES.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. Ede seconded, and it was unanimously agreed, that the Committees should be constituted as follows:

Arbitration Committee—J. J. Ball-Irving, G. B. Dodwell, A. McConachie, R. C. Wilcox, N. A. Siebs, T. H. Whitehead.

Corresponding Committee—J. J. Ball-Irving, N. J. Ede, T. Jackson, H. Smith.

THE WUCHOW OBSTRUCTION CASE.

Read letter from Mr. Sanderson, of Foreign Office, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's letter of 3rd March calling attention to the action of the Chinese authorities at Wuchow-fu in obstructing trade under transit pass.

PROHIBITION OF IMPORT OF CATTLE AT SAIGON.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary announcing receipt of telegram prohibiting import of cattle at Saigon.

DUTIES LEVIABLE IN JAPAN ON BRITISH-OWNED GOODS FROM FORMOSA.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary, dated 24th April, acquainting Chamber with certain facts on the subject of the duties leviable in Japan on British-owned goods from Formosa which have been transhipped at Hongkong; also reply to same, dated 27th April.

THE IMPORT DUTIES ON FOREIGN GOODS IN CHINA.

In consequence of the reported intention of

the Chinese Special Ambassador Li Hung-chang to Russia to subsequently visit other European Courts and endeavour to obtain an increase in the present import duties on foreign goods, a letter (tabled) was addressed to the British Minister at Peking on the 16th May, expressing the hope that before any definite steps are taken in that direction, an opportunity will be afforded to the Chambers of Commerce interested to express their views upon any changes that may be contemplated.

Secretary stated that copies of this letter had been forwarded to H.E. the Governor, the China Association, London, and several English Chambers of Commerce and all the Chambers in China.

THE CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

A circular letter from the London Chamber was read stating that the date of meeting of the Congress had been advanced from 15th to 8th June.

The following is the correspondence referred to:—

DUTIES LEVIABLE IN JAPAN ON GOODS FROM FORMOSA.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
24th April, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce with the following facts on the subject of the duties leviable in Japan on British-owned goods from Formosa which have been transhipped at Hongkong.

It was decided by the Japanese Government that from the date on which the island of Formosa became a portion of the dominions of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, cargo conveyed in Japanese foreign-going vessels and foreign vessels from the open ports of Japan to ports in Formosa where Imperial Customs Houses are established, or from Formosan ports where Imperial Customs Houses are established to Japanese open ports, should be treated in the same way as cargo transported from one Japanese open port to another, and that cargo transported from Formosan ports where no Imperial Customs House is established, in respect of which satisfactory proof is produced to the Commissioner of Customs that it has been conveyed from a Formosan port, should be treated in the same manner.

The question has now arisen whether this arrangement is applicable only to direct shipments between Formosa and Japan, or whether the above treatment can be claimed in respect of cargo, accompanied by a through bill of lading, shipped from Formosa, but transhipped at Hongkong en route for Japan.

Although the Customs charges levied on a cargo of sugar recently shipped from Takao to Yokohama under a through bill of lading allowing of transshipment at Hongkong, and actually so transhipped, were, as a special case, and on the production of satisfactory evidence as to the origin and destination of the cargo, refunded by the Japanese Government, it is considered doubtful whether the treatment accorded in this instance can be generally claimed as a matter of right.

I am, therefore, to request that I may be favoured, for the information of His Excellency the Governor and for transmission to the Secretary of State, with the views of the Chamber of Commerce as to whether the effect of the privilege, if claimed and accorded, would be likely to prove beneficial or otherwise to the trade of this colony.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, &c., &c., &c.

29th April, 1896.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. on the subject of the duties leviable in Japan on British-owned goods from Formosa which may be transhipped at Hongkong, in which after citing a case showing that on satisfactory proof of the origin and destination of the cargo being given the Customs charges were refunded by the Japanese Government, though it was considered doubtful whether the treatment then accorded could be generally claimed as a right, H.E. the Governor requests the views of the Chamber as to whether

the effect of the privilege, if conceded, would be likely to prove beneficial or otherwise to the trade of this colony.

In reply, I am directed by the Committee to say that, although the commercial clauses of the new Treaty with Japan, embodied in Articles V. to XI., make no special reference to cases in transshipment, the general tenour and meaning of those clauses, providing for fair and equitable treatment, would seem to indicate an intention to include such right. In the absence, however, of a distinct understanding on the subject, it is most desirable that the privilege of transshipping at Hongkong should be definitely provided for, inasmuch as a denial of the claim would assuredly have an injurious effect on the trade of the colony.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary

THE WUCHOW-FU OBSTRUCTION CASE.

Foreign Office, April 3rd, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd of March, calling attention to the proceedings of the Chinese authorities at Wuchow-fu, by which native traders were deterred from purchasing goods offered for sale by Mr. Andrew.

In reply, I am to state that the unsatisfactory nature of the proclamation issued by the Prefect has been reported by the Acting Consul at Canton to Mr. Beauclerk, who is in communication with the Tsungli Yamen on the subject.

It is hoped that Mr. Beauclerk will be successful in his efforts to arrive at a proper settlement of Mr. Andrew's case. Her Majesty's Government are pressing the Chinese Government to carry out the spirit of their Treaty obligations in regard to the Transit Pass system.—I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

T. H. SANDERSON.

The Chairman, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

THE IMPORT DUTIES ON FOREIGN GOODS IN CHINA.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 16th May, 1896.

Sir,—An announcement made by Reuter's Agency on the 4th instant to the effect that His Excellency Li Hung-chang intends visiting the Courts of the various Treaty Powers partly with a view to obtaining an increase of five to eight per cent. *ad valorem* of the import duties levied on foreign goods in China has aroused the attention of this Chamber; the question being one that seriously concerns all those engaged in commerce in this colony and the Chinese Treaty ports.

Whilst recognising the fact that, under certain conditions and guarantees, the duties might not unreasonably be subjected to some increase, the Committee are most anxious that the principle even should not be conceded unless it is first laid down that the increased duty is to free the goods absolutely from all further charge throughout the Chinese Empire. That is to say, an increased import duty, levied at the port of arrival, shall render such goods free of lekin and all other taxes whatsoever.

Supposing the Chinese Government concede this point, the question then remains, what guarantees can be obtained that the various local imposts, which are at present the mainstay of the officials in South China, will not still remain a burden on the back of trade, rendered the more intolerable to the extent of the additional duty? The guarantees would need to be ample and reliable, similar to those afforded in certain matters by the collection being placed in the hands of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

The unfortunate failure of the Imperial Government, when negotiating the provisions of the new Treaty with Japan, to consult with, or refer the matter to, the Hongkong Government, was the means of placing the leading industry in this colony at a most serious disadvantage, whereby a disastrous, if not fatal, blow will be given to its sugar refining trade when the Treaty comes into force.

It is therefore not without much anxiety that

my Committee regard the proposed alteration of the tariff under the Treaties with China, and they earnestly hope that before any definite steps are taken in that direction, an opportunity will be afforded to all the Chambers of Commerce interested to consider and express their views upon any changes that may be contemplated.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To His Excellency Sir Claude MacDonald, K.C.M.G., Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in China, Peking.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.

At the Magistracy on the 29th May before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Frank Walker, formerly the Hongkong manager of the Vacuum Oil Company, was brought up on remand charged with embezzling sums of money amounting in all to \$2,572.76, belonging to the Vacuum Oil Company.

Mr. K. W. Mounsey prosecuted and defendant was represented by Mr. W. Looker (of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office.)

In opening the case Mr. Mounsey said the charge was preferred by the Vacuum Oil Company upon information which had been laid by Mr. Bottenheim, who was at present the manager in Hongkong for that Company, and the charge brought on that information was that the prisoner had embezzled sums of money belonging to the Company amounting to \$2,572.76. After referring to the Ordinance under which the charge was brought, Mr. Mounsey said the prisoner was appointed to his position in the Company some two and a half years ago, and the position he held was that of clerk in charge. He had full authority to sign cheques for the Company and full authority to collect all monies due to the Company. The gentleman who had laid the information (Mr. Bottenheim) came to the colony in November, 1895, and he came for the special purpose of obtaining orders for the Company and furthering their interests in this colony, not in any way to look after the accounts or do any clerical work, that work being confided to the care of the prisoner. The relative positions of the two gentlemen were absolutely distinct. After Mr. Bottenheim came here—or he might say before he came here—the Company were considerably dissatisfied with what was going on and they instructed Mr. Bottenheim to become acquainted with all the office work that was necessary for properly carrying on the business of the Company. Ultimately Mr. Bottenheim received telegraphic communication from the head office of the Company by which he was entrusted with the whole of the management of the business of the Company in Hongkong and instructed to minutely examine its affairs. The telegram was sent in consequence of a letter which had been previously written to Mr. Bottenheim giving him instructions to acquaint himself with the workings of the Company's Hongkong business and sign cheques, but that letter was not to be put into execution until the receipt of this confirmatory telegram. He then talked matters over with the prisoner and the result of it was that Mr. Walker was found deficient in his accounts to the extent of the sum mentioned in the charge. In order to make matters more clear Mr. Bottenheim obtained from the prisoner a letter, dated 21st May, which read as follows:—"In balancing the accounts I find I am \$2,572.76 short in the Vacuum Oil Company's account in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. It is my intention to wire to London to private sources for this amount, which I am certain to obtain immediately, and I will at once hand the amount over to you." The sum of \$2,576.72 was made up as follows:—Total amount of cash memos of payments received by the prisoner for the month of April and May, \$3,220.62; the balance in the Bank, according to the pass book, amounted to \$539.01, and the balance of these two amounts was \$2,681.61. Now out of this amount the prisoner had transferred to the capital account, but which he had no authority to do, the sum of \$108.85, in order to bring the capital account up to its proper amount, and that left a balance due from him to the Company of \$2,572.76. After Mr. Bottenheim had been through the accounts

with the prisoner and after he had obtained the admission from him of a deficiency in the accounts, he telegraphed to the head office for instructions and he received a reply instructing him to do what was necessary and the best he could for the Company in order either to get the money replaced or to allow the law to take its course. Every opportunity was given to the prisoner to raise funds, but unfortunately he was unable to do so. Mr. Mounsey then described the working of the Company's system of business, which he said was very simple. He then referred to prisoner's action in transferring money from the collection account to the capital account. The actual capital which was supposed to be retained in Hongkong for the purpose of running the business was \$500. A cash statement was sent to the receiving office in Singapore every week and when disbursements had been made they would remit the amount by draft at once, so as to keep the capital account up to the prescribed \$500. Salaries were remitted direct and not taken out of the capital account. Supposing one week the general items amounted to \$200, the cash in hand would amount to \$300 and it would be necessary to receive a draft for \$200 from the Singapore office to raise the capital to \$500. After being very dissatisfied with the way in which matters had been going, the head office telegraphed to Mr. Bottenheim to take charge of the business, and he followed out his instructions and he approached the prisoner with a view to a settlement of the accounts, giving him ample time to raise the money. In connection with this he would point out to his Worship that although Mr. Bottenheim had done all he could to stave matters off for the benefit of the prisoner, yet he had been in a position that compelled him to do his duty in accordance with the instructions from the head office.

Mr. Looker asked his Worship if he would deal with the case summarily. He had power to do so.

Mr. Mounsey—I can only mention that I am instructed that the Company has no wish to do anything which may be considered by anybody to be unduly harsh, and as your Worship has the power to deal with this matter summarily, and as by so doing the sentence would be very considerably reduced, there is no reason as far as I can see why you should not do so. I am perfectly willing to agree to this course if your Worship considers you have the power.

Mr. Looker submitted that his Worship had power to deal with the case summarily.

His Worship—I will consider the point.

Mr. Bottenheim was then called and said he was manager in Hongkong for the Vacuum Oil Company. He came to Hongkong in November last to further the interests of the Company, to obtain contracts, and to work a list of firms which had been entrusted to his care entirely. Defendant was at that time clerk in charge of the business. The special order was given to the defendant to sign cheques for the firm in January last. Defendant had been in Hongkong about 2½ years. Witness had no specific instructions on being sent to Hongkong except that he was to report direct any irregularities that might come under his notice. He received letters from the Bombay office complaining of the manner in which the work was being conducted by Mr. Walker and on the 30th March he was authorised to handle the bank account. He refused to go into the accounts unless he had authority to take full responsibility. On the 19th ult. he received a telegram stating that the business was left entirely to his charge, and ordering a minute examination of the affairs. Defendant was in the office when the telegram arrived and they translated it together. Witness examined the accounts and found that certain amounts had been collected but not remitted. He asked defendant for the balance, agreeing to allow him till 12 o'clock next day to produce the same. Witness went to the office at 12 o'clock the next day, but defendant did not appear, and he eventually saw him in Thomas's grill rooms at two o'clock. On the afternoon of the 21st inst. defendant handed him a letter in which he stated that he was short in his accounts to the extent of \$2,572.76; that it was his intention to wire to private sources in London for the amount, which he was sure to

obtain, and that he would pay it at once to the Company. On the 20th defendant read over the accounts to witness from his private book. The total amount of the cash memos from April to May was \$3,220.62, which should have been paid into the bank or remitted to Singapore. The defendant had the pass book made up to the amount of \$539.01, leaving a balance due to the Company of \$2,681.61, but as the sum of \$108.85 had been taken from the collection account to meet current office expenses, it left a total balance due from defendant of \$2,572.76. None of the items received had been credited in the ledger and the amounts were not paid into the bank. It was defendant's duty to enter the amounts of the daily cash memos on a cash form and submit the same to the head office every week, but this had not been done regularly. Defendant had taken \$108 from the collection account and credited to the capital account, which he had no authority to do.

At the conclusion of Mr. Bottenheim's evidence Mr. Mounsey asked for an adjournment.

Mr. Looker asked the Court to allow him to take copies of the documents which had been put in, as up to the present he had had no opportunity of examining the letters and books.

His Worship—In view of the letter put in and your application I do not suppose you expect to be able to establish a good defence.

Mr. Looker—Perhaps not, but I hope to be able to put forward a good many facts in mitigation.

In answer to Mr. Looker his Worship intimated that he would deal with the case summarily.

The case was remanded until the 3rd June.

THE "JOHN BAIZELEY" ABANDONED.

The barque *John Baizeley*, which went ashore near Macao on the 23rd May, was afterwards abandoned, and on the evening of the 27th May the captain and crew arrived at Hongkong. It was found impossible to get the boat off the sands, as she was firmly embedded and the only thing to do was to abandon her. A wreck always affords a fine opportunity for looting by the Chinese and in this instance the looters will have handsome spoil. The captain brought away the sails and other things, but he had to leave the cargo, which is valued at about \$10,000, and unless a Chinese gunboat goes to the scene to protect the vessel she will quickly fall into the hands of the hundreds of fishermen who have been drawn to the scene. The cargo consists of Singapore hard wood, and not only will this be taken away, but the vessel will of course be soon chopped to pieces.

About 6.30 p.m. on the 29th May the members of the shipping community were considerably surprised to see the *John Baizeley*, the barque which went ashore near Macao on Saturday, coming into harbour in tow of the tug-boat *Fame*. It was thought by everyone that the barque was so firmly embedded in the sand that it was impossible to save her, but on Thursday night the Dock Company instructed Captain Stopani to proceed with all possible speed to the ship and endeavour to get her floated. Captain Stopani commenced tugging at the ship about five o'clock on Friday morning and he was engaged in the task for several hours before his efforts were rewarded. The barque was then brought into Hongkong and taken to the Cosmopolitan Dock. She will have to undergo very extensive repairs. The looting fishermen who swarmed to the scene of the accident removed everything portable, including all the rigging and sails left on the vessel and also every bit of copper and fittings they could lay their hands on. The cargo was untouched. It consisted of Singapore hard wood and it seems that the very heavy weight of this wood was altogether too much for the fishermen and they consequently had to, reluctantly no doubt, leave it alone. But they got a very good haul as it was and doubtless they are satisfied with their spoil.

[The name of the vessel in the first report of the accident was erroneously given as the *Mount Lebanon*.]

THE "ACTIV" FLOATED.

News reached Hongkong on the 29th May that the *Activ*, which struck the rocks at Sad Point, about thirty miles west of Hoihow, on April 7th, had been successfully floated through the instrumentality of Mr. Jack. It will be remembered that the *Activ* was bought at auction a short time ago by Mr. Marty for \$1,500, so the purchaser is to be congratulated upon his successful speculation. Captain McIsaac has been appointed captain of the steamer and as soon as possible she will be brought on to Hongkong for repairs.

THE ROBBERY AND MURDER AT WANCHAI.

The men charged with complicity in the armed robbery and murder at Wanchai some time ago were taken before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings on the 28th May. There are now six prisoners altogether, including the actual murderer, but as yet there is no evidence of identification in connection with the robbery. The master of the crockeryware shop, 20, Cross Street, where the robbery was committed, turned up yesterday and gave evidence in a most unsatisfactory and unwilling manner. He spoke to four men entering the shop and presenting revolvers at him, but positively said he could not identify one of them. The only clue he could give was that one of the men wore a blue coat. When the murderer of the district watchman was arrested he was wearing a blue coat, but the master of the shop said he could not recognise his face, and he even failed to recognise him as the man he had seen in the police station soon after the robbery and murder. The prisoners were remanded.

At the Police Court on the 2nd June the man charged with the murder of a district watchman at Wanchai was again brought up, and after plans had been put in evidence was committed for trial at the sessions.

IMPROVED WATER SUPPLY FOR SHAUKIWAN.

A MODEL VILLAGE.

Shaukiwan is an ideal Chinese village. The inhabitants are nothing if not eminently respectable; their houses are, for Chinese, scrupulously clean, while the streets maintain a very wholesome appearance at any time. Fishermen for the most part, the inhabitants are very reserved in their manner and as exclusive as the residents of the West End of London are from the residents of the East End. They shun a stranger, particularly if he come from Hongkong, and it is a conspicuous fact, as a testimony of their cleanliness, that very few cases of plague have occurred in the village, and those few are strongly supposed to have been imported by boats. So careful are the inhabitants of their own immunity from plague that they not only adopt a high standard of cleanliness, but also take the best possible means to isolate themselves from the disease. There are no lodging houses in Shaukiwan, and not a single resident would take a stranger under his roof. The homeless wanderer must go elsewhere for shelter, as Shaukiwan will have nothing to do with him. Outside their own select circle they look upon everyone as a possible communication of the scourge and so these highly respectable people jog along in a quiet, unassuming, and happy fashion and treat every stranger with great suspicion. Just now the Public Works Department is rapidly transforming Shaukiwan into a model village. Up to the present the place has had no convenient water supply. There are two never failing streams in the village and they supplied water to wells on which the inhabitants relied for their wants. It has now been determined to give them a supply which shall not only prove adequate, but which will add further dignity to the village. A reservoir, 66 feet long, 36 feet wide, and about 15 feet deep, is to be constructed on the hill side, and by this means there will, it is estimated, be stored sufficient water to last the whole of the dry season, the holding capacity being sufficient to equalise the flow from the two streams, which are never dry. The village will be supplied from a pipe leading from the reservoir along the

main street and as the water is particularly clear and pure a filter bed will not be required; the only process of filtration that will be adopted being the placing of some broken stones behind a dam situated at the end of each pipe leading from the streams into the reservoir. A deep culvert will be constructed along the course of the supply pipe, so that the breaking up of the road in case of accident will be obviated. The reservoir will be on the hill side off a side street near the soy factory, and the streams are situated on the east and west side of the proposed reservoir, which will be covered over with turf. The main is of iron, three and four inches in diameter and is already laid through the village for a considerable distance in the direction of Victoria, and fountains are already fixed in the street. Indeed, for some time the supply has been obtained by means of the fountains, as a pipe has been laid from each stream to the main. The whole of the principal street has recently been sewered and the other streets are being macadamized and channelled. Near the proposed reservoir a bungalow will be erected for the watchman, and it is thought that the whole of the work, which will be under the supervision of Mr. H. P. Tooker, will be completed in nine months.

IMPROVEMENT AT MONG KOK TSUI.

Tenders are now being received for the improvement of streets in Mong Kok Tsui, Yau-mati. The village is partly built over at the present time and the main street running through is a continuation of Station Street, Yau-mati. Recently the work of draining and providing for storm water has been commenced and already many nullahs have been completed and sewage pipes led along the main streets. It is now proposed to form the streets by filling them up to the improved levels. The streets to be thus treated are the street leading from Station Street, three cross streets, and a short length of street running parallel with and to the east of Station Street. This work will be completed in three months.

QUARANTINE AGAINST CHINESE PORTS AT SINGAPORE.

The following telegram from the Colonial Secretary, Singapore, has been received by the Colonial Secretary, Hongkong:—

"Chinese ports, Foochow southward including Hainan, declared to be infected owing to bubonic plague. Quarantine as in case of Hongkong."

THE PLAGUE AT KOWLOON.

EXODUS OF DOCK HANDS.

The prevalence of plague at Kowloon has caused an exodus of no fewer than nine hundred men from the works of the Dock Company, and at the present time it will doubtless be of interest to give one or two reasons which have been advanced both for the abnormal number of cases of plague in that district and the very serious diminution in the number of the Dock Company's work people. In 1894, when plague was raging with such persistent fierceness in Hongkong, Kowloon was comparatively free, and yet lately, strangely enough, there have been more cases from Kowloon than from the city. It is suggested, and we put the theory forward for the consideration of the Sanitary Board officials as an interesting subject for inquiry, that the Chinese, on the outbreak of plague in Hongkong, flocked over to Kowloon, which they looked upon as safer to dwell in than any other part of the colony. This influx of people of course meant the overcrowding of the houses, and overcrowding carries in its train filth and personal uncleanness, an absence of efficient ventilation, and consequently disease, so that now the district is much more partial to feeding the plague germs than it was in 1894. On the other hand Mr. McCallum, the Secretary of the Sanitary Board, says it is probable that Kowloon City is really the source of the danger, but as he is not quite certain yet whether the disease is very rampant in that part of Chinese territory, the opinion must of course be taken as indefinite at present.

If it turns out that the disease is raging in Kowloon City there can be no doubt that that would form a probable source owing to its proximity to Kowloon, although we should think the danger of infection would be just as great, if not greater, in Hongkong than in British Kowloon, as there is quite as much communication between Hongkong and Kowloon City as there is between British Kowloon and Kowloon City. However that may be, both theories are well worth the attention of the authorities.

The Dock Company in normal times employ about three thousand men and there is always plenty of work for the whole of them, but at the present time there are only just over two thousand hands employed. Fortunately it cannot be said that the trade of the colony is perceptibly interfered with by the shortness of dock hands, but if the rate of deserting from the works proceeds as it has done lately the inconvenience to shipping must increase to a material extent. The reason why these nine hundred men, most of whom are employed on skilled labour, have left work is, it is said, that they look upon Kowloon as a highly infected place. Many of the men have alleged illness as a cause of their absence, while others have plainly stated that not only are they afraid of contracting the disease and the treatment by the English doctors, but that many cases of plague occur in the district which never, for obvious reasons, come under the knowledge of the Sanitary Board officers. Many people, it is asserted, have, after being stricken with the disease, left their homes in order to die in their native country, and it is further remarked that not a few dead bodies of persons who have been on their way have been picked up on the hill sides. It seems that the prejudice against the Western medical treatment is as deep rooted at Kowloon as ever, and even intelligent Chinese workmen have been heard to remark that English doctors poison the patients. If the men are told that they would die in Canton in greater numbers they would simply say "More better die in Canton than Hongkong." The Ching Ming festival has been alleged as a reason for the exodus, but as this festival commenced on the 4th April it cannot explain the present absence of the men.

MR. W. DANBY AND THE SANITARY BOARD.

A REJOINDER BY MR. DANBY.

The following letter has been forwarded to Mr. H. McCallum, Secretary of the Sanitary Board, by Mr. W. Danby:—

Hongkong, May 26th, 1896.

Dear Sir,—Adverting to the published account in the local papers of the proceedings at the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Thursday last, the 21st instant, I have the honour to request that you will lay this letter before the Board at its next meeting.

2.—Before proceeding further, however, I wish to assure you and the Board that the letter of mine referred to at the meeting, and published in the *China Mail* of the 14th instant, was (as Mr. Ede stated at the meeting) published in good faith and *pro bono publico*. I still adhere to the statements made therein, and have nothing to withdraw.

3.—I desire most emphatically to protest against the remarks in reference to myself, both in the minute circulated to the Board by the President and yourself, and also to the statements made about myself by the President at the meeting, and to the "animus" shown by him towards myself.

4.—I think it my duty to state that when I called upon the President on the 11th instant I was not received courteously, and had to remind him that I had called upon him as "President of the Sanitary Board" in reference to certain information I had received, and which I had every reason at the time (and still have) to believe to be reliable, and that I thought "I was doing him a good turn" by informing him of these reports, which was done with a view to him (as President of the Sanitary Board) causing enquiries to be made as to the truth or otherwise of them; as he, owing to his official position, could better and more easily do so than myself, a private individual, even had I declined to do so.

5.—The information I gave the President was of the two kinds, one referring to the many rumours in circulation as to certain cases, which looked more than "suspicious," and others which I knew of and had seen myself, as to the retention of certain *illegal* cocklofts and the pulling down of certain *legal* cocklofts; the former information was *private* and *confidential*, and the latter was not; and it was to the former cases only I naturally assumed the letter of the President of the 15th instant referred.

6.—The President has evidently mixed the two cases together. I regret to see from the Board's letter to the Government that no enquiries have as yet been made by him as to the truth or otherwise of the first information I gave him.

7.—Had he asked me to accompany either himself or a responsible officer to the places mentioned to him I should have been only too glad to have done so.

8.—I venture to think you will find all my references to Nos. 88 and 90, Bonham Strand (two of the large hongs in Bonham Strand referred to in my letter) verified eventually. As, however, legal proceedings are about to be commenced in these cases against the Board, it would be out of place for me to make further reference to them now beyond mentioning that the President is *again* wrong in his letter to the Government in stating that "Mr. Danby fails to give the number of premises occupied by his clients, so that further enquiry as to alleged damages done to his client's cargo and stock in trade is not practicable." I can imagine no reason for Mr. Cooper making such a statement on the 21st instant, seeing I took the Secretary of the Board and Mr. Ede to the very premises referred to on the 9th inst., and pointed out to them, on the spot, the verandah floors from which I saw dirty water falling on my client's valuable merchandise.

9.—In the matter of the alleged *illegal* cocklofts in Wing Sing Lane, I accept your version as to what you said on the occasion of our visit there on the afternoon of the 9th inst. as correct. I most certainly heard you say "there was no doubt they were illegal." I did not, however, hear you qualify the statement shortly afterwards. It may interest you, however, to be informed that about the middle of last month (you will no doubt find notes of the case in your office), an Inspector visited these premises and ordered all the cocklofts to be removed; the owner protested against doing so, and referred the matter (through others) to yourself, who gave instructions for cocklofts to remain, and they are there now. If those cocklofts were *legal*, the Inspector had no right to order their removal, and with all respect to yourself, if they were *illegal*, neither you nor the Sanitary Board had any right to allow them to remain.

10.—I have read very carefully the copy of Government Notification No. 373 you sent me, which to my mind places the illegality of these cocklofts beyond all dispute.

11.—The Notification states, among other things, that "No permission will be granted for the continuance of cocklofts, unless the top floors of such cocklofts do not extend over more than one-half of the floor area of the room, and has a clear space above it of not less than 8 feet, and below it of not less than 9 feet measured vertically. In the case, however, of cocklofts on ground floors, that do not comply with these conditions, no permission will be granted for their continuance *except for storage purposes only*." (It will be interesting to know if any permission has been given by the Board for these cocklofts to be used for storage purposes only.)

12.—Now, sir, you saw me on the 8th instant, in the presence of Mr. Ede, measure the height from the ground floor of No. 7, Wing Sing Lane to the underside of the cockloft in that shop; the height was 7 feet 7 inches. I also pointed out to you and Mr. Ede at the time that there was a Chinese bed on the cockloft, which we all saw through the railing of the cockloft; it was then you stated that the "cockloft was certainly illegal," and you were correct in your statement. You did not tell us, however, and the fact only came to my knowledge subsequently, that you were already acquainted (or ought to have been) with the existence of these alleged illegal cocklofts, and that they were in existence, owing to your own

instructions, after an Inspector had given orders for their removal.

13.—In your minute to the Board, I note you still say they are *legal* for some reason or other.

14.—For the information of yourself and the Board, on Saturday afternoon last I ascertained the respective measurements of the ground floors of the first seven shops on the east and west sides of this Wing Sing Lane commencing from Queen's Road Central, and also made a note of the purposes for which the cocklofts were being used, and the respective number of beds found on each of them.

15.—I have embodied this information in the following table, which I think explains itself. The table is signed by Captain Burnie as correct, he having verified my measurements, &c. (in my absence), yesterday morning:—

Wing Sing Lane.

Measurements of certain houses therein.

No. of house.	Length of shop.	Length of cockloft.	Height of shop.	Height of cockloft.	Clear height of cockloft.	Width.	Adults at 400 cubic ft.	Purposes for which cocklofts used.
1	30.0	13.6	14.0	7.5	6.0	12.10	24	5 Beds and baggage.
3	31.2	15.3	14.0	7.4	6.2	13.6	3	4 Beds and tables.
5	33.5	15.9	14.6	7.7	6.4	12.6	3	4 Beds and baggage.
7	35.6	15.6	14.0	7.8	6.5	12.6	3	3 Beds and fixed shelves.
9	16.0	7.3	12.10	7.4	5.9	12.6	1	2 Beds and baggage.
11	36.10	19.6	13.10	7.7	5.9	12.6	3	6 Beds and baggage.
13	41.0	15.0	13.8	7.8	5.6	12.6	4	4 Beds and baggage.
15	45.0	21.0	14.9	7.11	6.3	12.6	4	5 Beds, tables, and baggage.
17	49.3	21.7	14.7	7.9	6.0	12.7	4	6 Beds and a little baggage.
19	36.0	15.9	14.7	8.4	5.9	12.6	24	2 Sleeping-mats and blankets rolled up.
21	26.6	13.10	14.2	7.10	5.9	12.6	2	3 Sleeping-mats ditto.

(The figures in Red [i.e., adults at 400 cubic feet] are my own.)

I, the undersigned, certify the above measurements, and the number of beds I saw on the floors of the respective cocklofts at about 10 a.m. on Monday, the 25th inst., as correct.

E. BURNIE.

17.—The Board will notice from this table that out of the fourteen houses referred to therein eleven are in my opinion strictly "illegal," and three "legal." The other houses in the lane are all of the same class and used for somewhat similar purposes.

18.—I should be glad to know if the President and yourself are still of opinion that these cocklofts are legal, and, if so, your reasons for such opinion, so that for the future owners of property may know the interpretation you and the Board place upon Notification No. 373.

19.—In the matter of your letter of the 11th instant, that you gave the occupiers of Nos. 91 and 103, Bonham Strand, addressed to "The Cleansing Gang," stating there was "no need to cleanse them for a few days," you and the President go off at a tangent from the point referred to in my letter and "quibble" as to whether the policeman threw the letter on the floor or placed it on a desk. I never made any reference of any kind to this subject in my letter; what I said is, that, on your letter

"being shown the policeman, he repudiated the letter and its instructions," and although you had directed that the parties concerned were to have time and opportunity to clean their own premises, he proceeded to do so there and then with his gang. Neither you nor the Board denied this statement of mine at the meeting, nor did you vouchsafe to inform the public how it came to pass that the written instructions of the Secretary of the Board were thus ignored by the policeman.

20.—The President in his letter to the Government on this subject states: "The conduct of a certain policeman in reference to his action after receiving a note signed by the Secretary is too vague to admit of definite investigation, neither the number nor that of the premises referred to being given." I beg again most strongly to protest against such a statement by the President, with your knowledge, as misleading in the highest degree, especially after your statement in your minute that the men had been themselves to you with your own letter in their hands, stating their own grievance; you and the President must have known the shop and the man. When they brought their complaints to me (I think on the 13th instant) I immediately sent them to you with your own letter of the 13th inst. (written on a large Sanitary Board memorandum form, and all in your own handwriting). The parties returned in a short time to my office, saying they had seen you and that you have kept the letter; so I presume you have it now. I venture to think the paragraph just quoted, from the Board's letter to the Government, is what you would call, if I were the writer, "a gross misrepresentation."

21.—No reference was made at the meeting or in your minutes as to whether policeman No. 103 is (as he told me he was) the sole authority as to what sunshades should remain up and what should come down. That was one of the questions raised in my letter. The sunshade in front of No. 55 is still in my opinion worse, owing to its mode of construction, than those that were adjoining it; these were made of zinc or tin laid on China fir boards, having no large holes or receptacles for filth or vermin to lodge therein; their thickness being about one inch only, exclusive of the battens to which the boards were fixed. The shade at No. 55 is "a built up one," having a deep false ceiling between the boards and the roof measuring from about 6 inches to 16 inches in depth, forming inside a large receptacle as before mentioned for harbouring all kinds of dirt, filth, vermin, &c. I am still of opinion, seeing that other and equally good sunshades in the neighbourhood were removed, this one ought to have been removed also, and that its retention or otherwise should not have been left to a policeman.

22.—I deny the insinuations in the last paragraph of the letter to the Governor, and still adhere to the whole text of the last paragraph of my letter in the *China Mail*, which was as follows, viz., "No one appreciates more than myself the efforts of the Sanitary Board to improve the sanitation of the colony. I am now and always have been prepared to assist and support the carrying out of any reasonable measure for improving its sanitation, and in fact in some cases I would advocate even more stringent measures. What I do object to, however, and that is the reason for my now writing you, is that all these regulations are not carried out consistently, without 'fear or favour,' and I hold that the Board and its officers should treat every one in the same manner, and not blow hot and then cold. Probably most of the owners referred to have received notices months and years ago, but they have been allowed to lapse, no steps being taken at the time to see them enforced. If a little more consideration was shown to the better-class Chinese, and no favouritism, but all treated in the same impartial manner, combined with a little tact on the part of the Board, I am sure you will find that the better-class Chinese, instead of obstructing the operations of the Board, would assist them all they possibly could. There is a right and a wrong way of doing things. In this matter, I am afraid, however, that the subordinate officials have struck the wrong way."

In the letter from the Board to the Government (which was drafted by the President), and

published in the local newspapers, the following statement appears:—"From inquiries that have been made, the Board is informed that the price of preparing plans for the alterations of cock-lofts has reached the handsome sum of from \$25 to \$75 each, so that doubtless large sums of money have been paid to work the 'oracle,' viz., the parties entrusted with the preparation of such plans."

On behalf of myself, Messrs Leigh & Orange, Messrs Palmer & Turner, and Mr. Demison, we protest most strongly against any such unauthorised statement on the part of the President, so far as the matter refers to ourselves (by insinuation or otherwise). I have the written authority of the above gentlemen for stating that in no case have their charges for preparing plans, &c., such as those referred to by the President, exceeded the maximum sum of \$20, and in my own practice also I have never charged more than that sum for similar work. The President never extended his enquiries to any of us, and we should be glad to know where he made them, and his authority for making such an accusation against the whole of the architects in this colony.

The above-named gentlemen and myself deny the above statement and insinuations of the President most emphatically, and would look upon it as a graceful act of justice on his part to ourselves if he would withdraw the above-quoted paragraph in the letter of the Board to the Government.

I agree with the President "that there may be a difference of opinion as to what is abuse," and respectfully refer you to the last line in the President's minute, as to what I, and many other people, would call "abuse" of a very serious kind.

I regret exceedingly having to take up and resume this matter in the way it has been forced upon me by the action of the Board at its last meeting. The original letter was published in the Press, that the mode in which the cleansing operations were being carried on throughout the city might be brought directly to the public notice of H.E. the Governor; the murmurings among all sections of the community were "not loud but deep," and I venture to think, with all respect, that had some of the principal officers of the Board been more in "touch" with the community there would have been no occasion for any of these letters to have been written.—Yours truly,

WM. DANBY,
M. Inst. C.E.

P.S.—Copies of this letter will be sent to the local papers.

W. D.

ATTEMPTING TO BRIBE A SANITARY BOARD INSPECTOR.

At the Police Court on the 1st June before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Lau Wah Ching, a brothel keeper, of 19, 20, 21, Reclamation, Yaumati, was charged with attempting to bribe a Sanitary Board inspector.

Inspector Rennie said—I am Inspector of Nuisances in charge of No. 10 division, British Kowloon. At 4.30 p.m. on the 30th ult. I arrived home at 23, Praya, Yaumati. The defendant was there and my housekeeper told me she had come to ask me if I was going to pull down the rooms at her house. I told her that if the wood was dirty and rotten and could not be properly cleansed without being removed it would be removed and burnt. I then sat down and defendant asked me, through the housekeeper, not to pull the rooms down, and she then put \$15 in my left hand, saying "I will give you this to buy whisky with." I sent for the police and she was taken to the station.

The housekeeper corroborated, and a policeman spoke to arresting the defendant.

The case was committed for trial at the sessions.

At Shanghai on the night of the 21st May a man was murdered and two women wounded by a gang of rowdies, the cause of the attack being that the man and women refused to afford their assailants facilities for drawing a lottery. On the alarm being given the detective branch of the police force were promptly turned out, with the result that nine of the criminals were arrested.

REVIEW.

Mesny's Chinese Miscellany. A Text Book of Notes on China and the Chinese. In two Volumes. By WILLIAM MESNY, F.R.G.S., F.R.Hist.S., Brevet Lieutenant-General Chinese Army. Vol. I. Shanghai: Printed at the *China Gazette* Office. 1896.

GENERAL MESNY has had a remarkable career, in the course of which he has had exceptional opportunities of acquiring interesting and valuable information on things Chinese. Unfortunately he has not the gift of imparting his information in such a way as to make it either interesting or generally useful to others. His aim, according to the preface to the present volume, is to supply "a handy and reliable standard authority on China and things Chinese." Handy it most certainly is not; reliable it may be so far as its information goes, but "editors of newspapers, reviewers and general writers, as well as geographers and other scientific explorers, schoolmasters and lecturers" are not likely to look upon the *Miscellany* as the standard authority of which, according to General Mesny, they stand so much in need. The General himself, however, appears well pleased with the result of his labours and thus apostrophises it:—

"As to my shortcomings, and many imperfections, I hope the public will be indulgent towards me, and that all who need a work of reference on China and the Chinese will kindly avail themselves of mine, until such time, at least, as a more capable writer has come forward to supply their wants, as well as mine, and better than I can do. Until such time, I say go forth then my little work, display thy light, feeble though it be, and mayest thou enlighten many a benighted pilgrim in search of facts or fiction, wisdom or mystery. Make friends of all thy readers, enemies of none whatever their sex or colour, creed or nationality. The world is wide I know, and it is said, 'there's room enough for all,' no doubt including thy meek self, on table, shelf, or stall. Some folks there be, who, for aught I know, may deem thou art but rubbish, unfit for intellectual food. Others there be, I trow of better taste and mind, who will treat thee as a gem, though rough and unpolished, but genuine none the less. Once more I say go forth, my little light, whatever thy lot may be, in mercy, truth, and justice prove thy constancy. Thou mayest survive the battle though fierce the strife may prove, and find a place on many a desk despite thy critic's mood."

The gem is certainly rough and unpolished and its genuineness is not above criticism. For instance, under the heading of "American Bible Society's agency," after a brief reference to the work of the Society—(why one Society should be picked out for mention in preference to all others does not appear)—we have some "curious information about the Holy Bible," introduced on the plea that it "may prove interesting to the many missionaries and other readers of *Mesny's Chinese Miscellany*." The information is taken from an American paper, is headed "The tree of knowledge," and the type is arranged in the shape of a tree, conveniently padding out nearly half a page. A *Chinese Miscellany* is not quite the authority one would refer to for the number of letters, chapters, verses, etc., in the Bible. We have another instance under the head of "London." After the Chinese name of the metropolis, we have nearly a page of information about London, very indifferent information, and surely out of place in a work on China. Perhaps the most conspicuous instance of padding, and the slovenliness with which it is introduced, is to be found under the heading "Masonic." If it was thought necessary to make any reference at all to Masonry in such a compilation a general statement of the position of the Craft in China, the number of Lodges, the constitutions under which they work, etc., might have been expected. Instead of that two individual masonic bodies, not specially representative ones, are picked out, the dates of their last installation meetings are given, with a full list of the officers of the year, and such particulars as that "at the close of the ceremony the companions were entertained at a sumptuous banquet." In parts, too, the book appears to have been padded out from the dictionary, as for instance, "*Chu-nu*—To take a daughter-in-law,

a wife for one's son," "Hun Yün—Matrimony, Bridegroom and Bride, the Matrimonial Couple, Marriage;" "Hun—Marriage, a Bridegroom (see Matrimony)." We accordingly turn to the index to "see matrimony," and we don't see it. The book has been issued in weekly parts, and apparently without any scheme of arrangement whatsoever, as regards the "notes," except that of filling up so many pages. The notes represent possibly the collection of all that has struck General Mesny as interesting throughout a long course of years, and they appear to have been thrown promiscuously into a drawer as they were made and taken out again by the handful when required for the printer. If some one endowed with moderate discretion were to go carefully through the book to eliminate all that is worthless and to arrange systematically what is worth retaining the result might be valuable, but in its present form the *Miscellany* is not likely to fulfil its purpose of supplying a standard authority on things Chinese. Some interest, however, attaches to "The Life and Adventures of a British Pioneer in China," being Colonel Mesny's personal recollections given in serial form, an instalment appearing in each number.

MEANDERINGS OF A MELANCHOLY MANIAC.

THE WEATHER.

(Inspired by William Shakespeare).

Act. I. Scene I. A bar in a club.

Enter four Tipplers, attendants, etc. Time, October. (Storm without).

1ST TIPPLER.—For nigh two months the heavens are o'ercast.

The rains descend in such untimely showers,
That Tytam near o'erflows his banks.

2ND T.—Prithee, drink'st thou?

3RD T.—I drink.

4TH T.—Signest thou?

1ST T.—Hold! See'st thou yon aged man,
Whose snowy locks and beard bear evidence
Unto the numinous years he's spent on earth;
Methinks he'll sign.

(Enter the Oldest Inhabitant of II—K—)

OLD INHAB.—Rain! Rain! Rain!
For four and fifty years I've walked this isle,
And yet mine eyes have not beheld such weather.
Gadzooks! Is't not October? and no rain
Should come to spoil our pleasures.

1ST T.—Tersely thou speakest! Yet 'tis thirsty weather.

2ND T.—It is! That is not exceptional!

3RD T.—It is! That is not exceptional!

4TH T.—It is! That is not exceptional!

OLD INHAB.—Give me the book. What ho! Varlet!
Wine for these gentlemen. (They drink.)
It rains, my fair young friends, but yet
Know that this weather is unusual.
And staying in H—K— for three score years.
You might not see such rain in sweet October.

(Alarum without)
But hark! The gentle gong calls us to feed,
And perfumed odours of the mashed, minced,
Boiled, chipped, baked,—ay! and Lyonnaise,
Do greet my nostrils.

(Exit Old Inhab.)

1ST TIP.—What weird old man was that?
Methinks these storms do lie upon his mind
But heavily.

2ND TIP.—His name I know not, but I do believe,
More years he's spent in this sad isle
Than others. He knoweth well the weather,
Or what by rights it should be,
At its diverse seasons.

(Alarums and excursions.)

I go to dine, 'tis time.

3RD TIP.—Anon! (Exit.)
(Curtain.)

Act. II. Scene. A sea shore.

Enter three Yacht Owners. Time, June.

1ST Y. O.—A pleasant breeze doth blow.
I would I had not put in dock
My boat, that with snowy wings to-day,
Hadst hurtled through the waters,
Carrying enormous spinaker.

2ND Y. O. (aside) Ay! Too enormous.

3RD Y. O. (aside) Ay! Too enormous.

1ST Y. O.—Do all the boats lie idle?

2ND Y. O.—My boat doth rest on sand,
Her pai it so old and cracked that yesterday
I could scarce discern her water line.

1ST Y. O. (aside) What wonder! It changeth

2ND Y. O. often.

3RD Y. O.—My boat likewise ashore, bereft of sails,
Spars, ropes, and ballast lies.

1ST Y. O. (aside) Ah! Fickle ballast!

2ND Y. O. (Enter a Launch and Three Voices)

1ST VOICE.—My hair is but in sorry plight,
And steeped in salt.

2ND VOICE.—A horrid thing, with slimy touch did
sting me,

Where at I screamed and left the water.

Methinks 'tis called a jelly fish.

3RD VOICE.—They're but too common. Ho! varlet;
Tea and bread and butter.

(Exit Launch and Voices.)

1ST Y. O.—It being gone, I am a man again.
Behold! What venerable form is this.

Which comes with sad and mournful air,

Decrepit with age?

(Enter Oldest Inhabitant.)

OLD INHAB.—For five and fifty years I've walked
this isle,

And yet mine eyes have not beheld such weather.

Behold! 'Tis June, and sunny weather still prevails.

Much rain and south-west wind should now

Keep us indoors by rights.

1ST Y. O.—Bird of ill omen! 'Tis Thou,
Who would'st ordain what wind should blow,
And whether sun should shine.

Whate'er the state of nature's elements

Thou say'st thou hast not seen the like

For five and fifty years. Sick unto death I am

Of your unusual weather.

Die! Croaker.

(Old Inhab. is slain.)

And now we'll bide no more

By what the weather should be

But by what it is.

Farewell my friends. Next year

A truce to protests and unfriendly bickerings

About each other's boats;

It is not worthy of us.

(Curtain.)

FINIS.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report for April from the Manager at the Mine:—

Mining.—This has continued to have our best attention and I am pleased to say good progress has been made. Our prospects are still fairly good and unless something unusual happens our output of gold, for some time at least, should be such as will give a fair profit on the cost of working.

August shaft, 200ft. level.—This point has again had a good deal of attention and some of the faces look encouraging. So far, however, Gillies' reef has not shown that improvement I had reason to hope for.

We are still extending the north drive and running out crosscuts to make sure that nothing is being missed. We are also driving south on the course of the north and south reef, but so far without finding anything of value.

Winzes have been sunk from the Intermediate to this level for convenience of working and two parties of men are now engaged stoping out ore for the mill. On the course of the east and west reef we are prospecting for the continuation of the western chute of ore, and although we have found small patches of reef which may pay to stop, out directly, we have not met with the chute referred to. To test this immediately we have now a winze coming down from the Intermediate on the course of the ore chute, which cannot fail to tell us what, if anything, has happened to it and why it is not found where expected.

Intermediate Level.—We continue to draw largely on this point for our supply of ore and, I am pleased to say, we seem to have a very large quantity in reserve. At present the ore body is fully 15 feet wide in places and looks strong enough to go to any depth.

110 feet Level.—There is no change to report here.

New Leader.—This continues a busy point and is still giving a fairly large quantity of ore for the mill. It will do so for some time to come.

Drive for the month... 430 ft. 6 in.

Ore mined... 1,064 tons.

made up as follows:—

August Shaft... 558 tons,

New Leader... 506 tons.

Milling.—This was carried on during 27 days,

crushing 1,064 tons, yielding 500 ozs. of melted gold.

Calcining Works.—This was run continuously during the month, treating 40 tons of concentrates for a yield of 96 oz. 5 dwts. of melted gold. You will notice that the yield per ton is much lower than was the case last month, but this is accounted for by the fact that we are not concentrating nearly so closely as hitherto, and thus allowing of larger quantities going to the cyanide works.

Cyanide Works.—Work here has now begun on a large scale and although, for reasons given in my weekly letters, it is not yet running full time, Mr. Wilson succeeded in treating 610 tons. He is now busy with the clean up, and will have it completed in a few days. He hopes for a fairly good result.

General.—A great deal of attention has been given to the various works coming under this head, and I am pleased to say that fair progress has again been made. Four more buddles have been added (making six in all) to our concentrating plant and the foundation timbers for the 9 in. plunger (tailings) pump have been squared and brought on the mine. The water wheel has come up river and most of the parts are now on the mine. The race from the mill to the main dam may be said to be practically finished, and the tail race from the Jalis River to the mill is in a very forward state. This work has been much interfered with by the heavy rains we have been getting during the past fortnight. I need not tell you that I am looking forward to the time when the water wheel will be ready for work with much interest, as not only will it effect a very great saving in firewood, but will take us out of the worry and trouble consequent on having to handle such large quantities of that article during wet weather, when our roads are little better than a mire.

A brick kiln has been built for our use here and a melting house put up for the use of the cyanide chemist.

Road making has been pushed on into the jungle for bringing out firewood and other timbers and the whole of the mine workings securely fenced in.

Labour.—I regret to say the supply of this has fallen off very considerably and I fear we may suffer greatly in this direction for some time owing to the drain caused by the making of the road from Kuala Kubu to Kwala Lipis by the Government.

The strong measures we have taken and are still carrying out to suppress gold stealing are no doubt a large factor in preventing labour from coming in.

The camp is healthy, payments are made promptly, and the greatest care taken of the work people, as evidenced by the small percentage of accidents. Of course I need not tell you that the labour supply of the state of Pahang is not nearly up to the demand, and if further proofs were necessary, I need only point out that in making the cart road from Raub to Kwala Lipis the Government have been compelled to adopt the old system of forcing the headmen of the various districts to supply men for the work. It goes without saying that this cuts off the supply available hitherto to companies and others carrying on work here.

Health.—This may be said to be fairly good.

Rainfall.—Total for the month is 7½ inches.

The *Independent* says that one of the greatest acts of injustice that China perpetrated in Korea was the keeping of Pyeng Yang closed to foreign trade. Its opening is of prime importance, because it is the outlet of certain kinds of produce not found largely elsewhere, especially lumber and coal. It may turn out that Pyeng Yang coal is not good steaming coal, though we imagine it has not been given a fair trial, but even so it would take its place in the markets of Tientsin, Chefoo, Shanghai, and the Korean ports as a magnificent stove coal and thus would prove a great blessing to foreigners as well as a considerable source of income to the Government. It seems to our contemporaries that every month that Pyeng Yang is kept closed is doing an injustice to the most vigorous, enterprising, and successful portion of Korea.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.**UNITED SERVICES v. CIVILIANS.**

This match, played on the 27th May resulted in a victory for the Civilians by 8 holes. The following is the score:—

CIVILIANS.

	Holes
Mr. G. Stewart	0
Mr. C. E. Hume	3
Mr. A. S. Anton	5
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	1
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	2
Mr. E. A. Ram	2
	13

UNITED SERVICES.

Capt. W. V. Eccles, R.B.	5
Capt. Rumsey, R.N.	0
Mr. W. M. Thompson, R.E.	0
Commodore Boyes, R.N.	0
Captain Ferguson, R.B.	0
Mr. C. V. Percival, R.B.	0
	5

On Thursday 4th June, the annual match Scotland v. The World will be played.

THE DUFFER'S CUP.

This competition, which is to be a half yearly event, was concluded on the 28th May and resulted in a victory for Major Thomas. The Duffer's Cup was instituted with the intention of bringing the long handicap men out of their shells and encouraging them to play and thereby improve their game. That this idea has been fulfilled is very evident; the play has improved very considerably, many of the rounds played being quite up to the standard of the first players of the club. Several of the "Duffers" will be missed at the next Cup competition, as they will have risen to the level of those who do not call themselves duffers; but it is to be hoped that even more of those members whose handicaps range from 18 to 24 will come forward on the next occasion. Amongst those whose play is deserving of praise are Mr. C. W. May, Mr. Morris, Major Thomas, Mr. Badeley, and one or two others, but to mention more names would be indiscreet, as it would draw attention to the fact that the Committee have their handicapping eye on them.

Major Thomas is to be heartily congratulated on winning the Cup, and we hope that the next competition will be as interesting and improving to play as this has been.

The final match resulted in a grand tussle between Major Thomas and Mr. Morris. Mr. Morris finished the first 9 holes 1 up, and then added another hole to his credit, but Major Thomas got the game "all even" at the 16th hole and again at the 18th hole. The pair had to proceed to the 20th hole before the match was decided.

1ST TIES.

Mr. B. P. Sheldon (21) a bye.

Mr. H. P. Tooker (20) a bye.

Mr. E. J. Grist (24) beat Mr. J. Barton (24), scratched.

Dr. J. M. Atkinson (15) beat Mr. G. W. F. Playfair (18) by 2 up and 1 to play.

Mr. C. V. Percival (18) beat Mr. S. E. Hol-
land (24) by 7 up and 5 to play.

Mr. E. M. Knox (24) beat Mr. C. W. Knox
(21) at 19th hole.

Mr. H. W. Slade (18) beat Mr. E. F. Mackay
(24) by 3 up and 1 to play.

Major Thomas (18) beat Mr. A. Cumming
(24), scratched.

Mr. C. W. May (16) beat Mr. C. A. Tomes (15)
by 7 up and 5 to play.

Mr. C. W. Spriggs (18) beat Mr. W. Taylor (24)
by 3 up and 2 to play.

Lieut. Barnardiston (24) beat Mr. H. W. Ro-
bertson (18) by 8 up and 6 to play.

Mr. F. J. Badeley (16) beat Mr. R. T. Richard-
son (21) by 2 up and 1 to play.

Captain Tunnard (24) beat Captain Dyson (24),
scratched.

Mr. P. de C. Morris (15) beat Dr. J. Bell (15)
by 2 up and 1 to play.

Mr. E. V. Brennan (24) beat Mr. D. Wood (24)
at 19th hole.

Col. The O'Gorman (24) beat Mr. T. Jackson
(24) by 3 up and 2 to play.

2ND TIES.

Mr. B. P. Sheldon beat Mr. H. P. Tooker by
2 up.

Mr. E. J. Grist beat Dr. J. M. Atkinson by 5
up and 4 to play.

Mr. C. Percival beat Mr. E. M. Knox by 4 up
and 3 to play.

Major Thomas beat Mr. H. W. Slade by 3 up
and 2 to play.

Mr. C. W. Spriggs beat Mr. C. W. May by 1
up.

Mr. F. J. Badeley beat Lt. Barnardiston by 4
up and 3 to play.

Mr. P. de C. Morris beat Capt. Tunnard by 8
up and 6 to play.

Col. The O'Gorman beat Mr. E. V. Brennan by
4 up and 2 to play.

3RD TIES.

Mr. B. P. Sheldon beat Mr. E. J. Grist at 10th
hole.

Major Thomas beat Mr. C. Percival by 2 up
and 1 to play.

Mr. C. W. Spriggs beat Mr. F. J. Badeley by
3 up and 2 to play.

Mr. P. de C. Morris beat Col. The O'Gorman
by 3 up and 2 to play.

SEMI-FINAL.

Major Thomas beat Mr. B. P. Sheldon by 4 up
and 3 to play.

Mr. P. de C. Morris beat Mr. C. W. Spriggs
by 4 up and 2 to play.

FINAL.

Major Thomas beat Mr. P. de C. Morris at
20th hole.

It may be as well to mention that the "Pro-
fessional Foursome" tournament will commence
on June 1st. The entries close to-morrow,
on which day the pairs will be drawn.

BEST SCORE CUP.

The Cup for May has been won by Mr. C.
W. May with an excellent net score of 74.

Scores:—

Mr. C. W. May	90	16	74
Mr. F. J. Badeley	94	16	78
Mr. C. A. Tomes	98	15	83
Mr. C. H. Grace	95	12	83
Mr. W. M. Thompson	95	10	85
Mr. G. Stewart	89	4	85
Mr. C. E. Hume	91	6	85

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday afternoon seven members com-
peted for the Long Range Cup and Spoons
over the 800 and 900 yards distances, ten shots
at each. Private Wilson, R.B., won the Cup
for the first time with a total of 78; the Spoons
falling to Captain Ferguson, R.B., for highest
net aggregate, and Private Wilson, R.B., for
highest aggregate with handicap points added.

The following were the best scores:—

	800 yards.	900 yards.	allow- ance for Han- dicap.	Total.
Private Wilson, R.B.	38	30	10	78
Mr. W. Deas	18	28	15	76
Capt. Ferguson, R.B.	40	28	4	72
Capt. Eccles, R.B.	18	39	15	72
Ct.-Sgt. A. Smith, R.B.	36	26	6	68

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.**ANNUAL CARBINE COMPETITION.**

The annual carbine competition of the Hong-
kong Volunteer Corps took place on the 25th May
on the ranges at Kowloon. The Ladies' Purse
was presented to the winner by Miss Murray
Bain and the prizes in the Ladies' Nomination
event were presented by Mrs. Chapman.

LADIES' PURSE.—7 shots at 200 yds.; posi-
tion, standing.

Sergt. Lowrie. 25 points.

LADIES' NOMINATION.—7 shots at 300 yds.;
position, any.

Nominee. Mrs. Lowrie. Score. 28

Sergt. Lowrie. (Prize presented by Serjts., Field Battery.)

Gunner White. Miss Brost. 26

(Prize presented by Battery Serjt.-Major.)

Gunner Brown. Mrs. Brown. 26

(Prize presented by Non-Com. Officers

Maxim G.C.)

Lieut. Chapman. Mrs. Chapman. 25

(Prize presented by Mr. E. Jones Hughes.)

Gunner Rankin. Miss M. Humphreys. 25

(Prize presented by Hongkong

Volunteer Corps.)

Corporal Smyth. Mrs. Smyth. 25

(Prize presented by Mr. N. J. Ede)

Gunner Stewart. Mrs. Stewart. 24

(Prize presented by Lieut. Chapman.)

A ct. Sgt. Thompson. Miss Plummer. 24

(Prize presented by Hongkong Volunteer Corps.)

Gr. G. P. Lammert. Mrs. G. P. Lammert. 23

(Prize presented by Wang Hing.)

Gunner Deas. Mrs. Deas. 23

(Prize presented by Lock Hing.)

Sergt. Hayward. Mrs. Hayward. 21

(Prize presented by Wing Cheong.)

Sergt. Maitland. Mrs. Jones Hughes. 20

(Prize presented by A. Tack.)

200 YARDS (HANDICAP).—One prize.

Gunner Stewart. 33

Signaller J. Hance. 33

Gunner H. A. Lammert. 32

400 YARDS (HANDICAP).—One prize.

Q.-M.S. Watling. 34

Act. Sergt. Thompson. 33

Sergt. Maitland. 33

Signaller Hance. 33

500 YARDS (HANDICAP).—One prize.

Gunner Neek. 33

Sergt. Bremner. 32

Gunner H. A. Lammert. 32

AGGREGATE (NET).—Two prizes.

Gunner G. P. Lammert. 86

Gunner W. Stewart. 86

Corporal Smyth. 85

Sergt. Lowrie. 84

AGGREGATE (HANDICAP).—Two prizes.

Q.-M.S. Watling. 98

Signaller Hance. 93

B.S.M. Duncan. 91

Act. Sergt. Thompson. 90

FIELD BATTERY CHAMPIONSHIP.—One prize.

Sergt. Lowrie. 90

Gunner Stewart. 86

Gunner Inglis. 83

B.M.S. Duncan. 82

Lieut. Macdonald. 82

MAXIM G. C. CHAMPIONSHIP.—One prize.

Corporal Smyth. 85

Gunner G. P. Lammert. 85

CARTON PRIZE (highest total of bulls).

Gunner Stewart. 90

CORPS CHAMPIONSHIP.

Sergt. Lowrie. 90

RECRUITS' HANDICAP.—One prize.

Gunner H. A. Lammert. 88

Gunner Sutton. 85

SIGNALERS' CUP.—One prize.

Signaller R. E. Belilios. 19

Trumpeter Saunders. 18

INSTRUCTORS' PRIZES.—Two prizes.

Sergt.-Major Spencer, R.A.

Master Gunner Duggan, R.A.

The Volley Firing and Consolation Prizes

will be competed for on Saturday, 6th inst.

INTERCOLONIAL SHOOTING MATCHES.

The following scores made by the Field Bat-
tery, H.K.V.C., in competitions with New
Westminster and Vancouver respectively have
been forwarded to us. The score of the New
Westminster team was 916, or a hundred ahead
of Hongkong. The Vancouver score has not
yet been received:—

FIELD BATTERY, H.K.V.C., v. NEW WESTMIN-
STER (B.C.)

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	Total.
Sergt. Lowrie	29	30	29	88
Lieut. Chapman	27	32	28	87
Lieut. Macdonald	30	29	28	87
Sergt. MacPhail	27	28	30	85
Gunner Stewart	28	30	26	84
Gunner Inglis	28	30	26	84
Sergt. Hayward	29	30	20	79
Gunner White	29	25	23	77
Gunner Brown	23	24	26	73
B.S.M. Duncan	27	27	18	72

Grand total. 816

FIELD BATTERY, H.K.V.C., v. VANCOUVER (B.C.)

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	Total.
Lieut. Chapman	28	34	28	90
Gunner Stewart	29	30	28	87
Sergt. Hayward	28	30	27	85
Gunner White	30	27	27	84
Gunner Brown	26	25	28	79
Lieut. Macdonald	29	29	20	78
Sergt. McPhail	16	28	29	73
Gunner Deas	24	24	22	70
Sergt. Wylie	24	24	21	69
Sergt. Bremner	22	23	19	64

Grand total. 779

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE UNVEILING OF HER MAJESTY'S STATUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I have resided in Hongkong for nearly forty years, but I have never before seen a pageant in any way equal to that which we have been permitted to witness this evening. Surely very many were ignorant that we could muster such a display of troops. I was for one. What noble men, and what magnificent carriage! And how they all appeared to enjoy the spontaneous manifestations of approval on the march past! Truly it was fine, and wholesome withal.

Several appeared to be busy with cameras, but the prettiest picture of all seemed to be overlooked, viz., the view of the statue with the British and Indian Bands upon the steps. I should be sorry for this to be lost, as the statue is a little cold alone, but with the green decorations and the bright colours of the Bands it was simply charming. If Major the Hon. E. Noel and Major Retallick will allow of the Bands being again placed in position, and if Mr. Ford will allow the flowers to remain, I will gladly pay the cost of a photograph, which will be much valued by the *Graphic* and the *Illustrated News* and will serve as a most pleasing memento of a matchless function.

I inclose my card and am—Yours faithfully,
A LOYAL SUBJECT.
Hongkong 28th May, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Having been in Canton for the past few days I had not the opportunity of inspecting the Queen's statue on the New Reclamation until this afternoon. Signor Raggi has certainly turned out a handsome memorial so far as his particular work is concerned, but what on earth did the Jubilee Committee mean by ordering a bronze figure of Her Majesty, and having ordered it, why did they have it stuck under a stone canopy? From an artistic point of view the combination is ridiculous. But what will the Chinese think? Poor ignorant souls, they will leave the statue under the impression that we are governed by a Black Queen!—Yours faithfully,

HARMONY IN ART.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1896.

THE RULE OF THE ROAD ON THE WHANGPOO.

THE "NORMANDIE" v. "PEKIN."

In the Admiralty Court at Shanghai on the 26th May, Chief Justice Sir N. J. Hannen delivered judgment in the action brought by the owners of the Norwegian steamer *Normandie* against the owners of the British steamer *Pekin* arising out of the collision in the Whangpoo River, on the morning of the 3rd April last.

His Lordship said—In this case the plaintiffs are Norwegian subjects and are the owners of the *Normandie*, a screw steamship of 628 tons register. The defendants are British subjects and are the owners of the *Pekin*, a paddle-wheel steamship of about 2,232 tons register.

Shortly after 5 a.m. on the 3rd of April, 1896, the *Normandie* left her moorings in Section No. 2 opposite to the French Bund and proceeded down the River Whangpoo. The day was breaking and the weather was clear and calm, the tide was about three-quarters flood.

When the *Normandie* was nearly abreast of the Pekin Road and was preparing to round Pootung Point, a steamship, which afterwards proved to be the *Pekin*, was observed at a distance of about three-quarters of a mile coming up stream in the middle of the river. In these circumstances the master of the *Normandie* ordered the helm of the *Normandie* to be starboarded with a view to taking the inner or Shanghai channel. At the same time two blasts of the *Normandie's* whistle were blown as a signal to the *Pekin*. Those on board the *Pekin* simultaneously blew one blast of her whistle. Thereupon the master of the *Normandie* immediately ordered her helm to be put hard-a-port and her engines full speed ahead, but for some

reason the *Normandie* would not answer the port helm, and a few minutes later the port bow of the *Pekin* came into collision with the stem of the *Normandie* and both ships sustained considerable damage. After the collision the *Normandie* proceeded to the Old Dock and the *Pekin* was beached to save her from sinking.

When the ships were about 300 feet apart the *Pekin* reversed, having already stopped, and we are of opinion that at the time of the collision she must have been brought to a stand.

I am of opinion, and the Assessor agrees with me, that the *Normandie* is entirely to blame for the collision which occurred. She did not keep to her proper side of the channel, she did not stop and reverse in time, and she did not, as the Assessor thinks she might have done, reverse and drop an anchor.

The *Pekin* in coming up the river chose the Pootung channel, and it is admitted that she had a right to do this. She came along the side of that channel which lay on her starboard side when she arrived at the point (the Old Dock buoy) where the two channels become one; she did what we consider she was right in doing—she ported her helm slightly to bring herself to the starboard side of the new channel she was entering. It was argued by Mr. Hanson that in doing this she contravened article 21 inasmuch as she did not keep her course.

I am particularly anxious that the plain Rule of the Road that a ship shall keep to that side of the fairway which lies on her starboard side should not be overlaid with decisions which only confuse shipmasters in the difficult navigation of this river, and I think that if I gave weight to this contention I should be introducing an element of uncertainty which would make this river even more dangerous to navigate than it is now. The answer to Mr. Hanson's point seems to me to be this, when the Court speaks of the course of a ship they are usually referring to the course of a ship at sea.

This is almost always a straight line, but in a winding river it may be, and often is, anything but a straight line. Here the course of the *Pekin* after she passed the Old Dock buoy was not a straight line, but one slightly curving to starboard first and gradually coming round to port. This course she followed and there is no ground for saying that in any proper sense of the phrase she caused the collision. The case of the *Corsica* (IX. Wallace, 630) is quite distinguishable. The *Corsica* was there held to blame for change of her course, no doubt, but her proper course was a straight line, and she undoubtedly went out of that course and ran into the other vessel. Moreover, she did this, as stated in the judgment, "just before the collision."

But the *Pekin's* course was not a straight line after passing the Old Dock buoy and she took her proper course at once on passing it, and intimated by her whistle, which the *Normandie* heard and understood that she was doing so. When she (the *Pekin*) did this there is evidence to show, and the Assessor advises me that it would have been quite possible for the *Normandie* to keep to the starboard side of the channel. If she was unable to do so it certainly was not the fault of the *Pekin*. The *Normandie's* duty was to keep to that side, and we do not think that the evidence showed any justification for not doing so.

The spot where the collision took place is not in dispute, and it is impossible to look at it and not see that the *Normandie* was improperly navigated to bring her there.

I find that before the collision the *Pekin* was not proceeding at an improper rate of speed and that she took all the measures she could, by stopping and reversing her engines, to avoid the collision.

I find that she did not disobey Articles 18, 22, and 24 or any of the regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

On the other hand I find that the *Normandie* improperly neglected to keep her right side of the channel, to take measures to avoid a collision, to slacken speed, stop, and reverse in due time, and disobeyed Articles 16, 18, 21, and 24 of the Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea; and I declare that the plaintiffs are liable for all damages and losses occasioned to the defendants by reason of the said collision and for the costs of this action.

PERILOUS VOYAGE OF THE "FEDERATION."

PROPELLER BLADES ADRIPT IN THE HOLD.

The steamer *Federation*, chartered by the Koninklijke Paketvaart Maatschappij, for which Messrs. Lants, Wegener & Co. are the Hongkong agents, was caught in the recent typhoon off the coast of Japan and had an adventurous voyage. We take the following account from the *Kobe Herald* of Saturday 23rd May:—

The *Federation*, about which there was a good deal of anxiety yesterday, arrived in port this forenoon after one of the most perilous voyages recorded. Indeed the story of the stout little ship's experiences recalls the terrible adventures of the *Bonnington* and her plucky crew. How the ship succeeded in reaching port is little short of a miracle. When she came in this morning she had a heavy list to port and was so much down by the stern that her forefoot was practically out of water. This was due to the quantity of water in the after holds—water which had found its way in through the ugly openings made in the sides aft by the propeller blades that got adrift during the storm. The ship left Yokohama at 2 p.m. on Tuesday last. She was then flying light, having discharged all her cargo (sugar) at Yokohama. Omaisaki was sighted at 1 a.m. on Wednesday. After this no land was sighted until Oshima was made out yesterday afternoon. The weather freshened at 7 a.m. on Wednesday. At noon a full gale was blowing, which continued until early yesterday morning, the wind at times attaining terrific violence. At 1 p.m. on Wednesday there was a breakdown in the engine room. The ship fell off into the trough of the sea and commenced rolling heavily. While lying thus helpless in the trough of the sea four spare propeller blades, which were secured in the 'tween decks aft, broke away from their lashings, tearing away a stanchion and six ring-bolts to which they were secured. On the hatch being opened the propeller blades were seen to be knocking about from side to side, threatening every minute to carve an opening in the ship's side. There was nothing to be done but to venture below and try to secure the blades afresh. The captain, chief, second and third officers, the carpenter, and boatswain went below to endeavour to secure the blades, and for the best part of four hours struggled with varying success. The position can be better imagined than described. Picture a large open space, the decks slippery with sugar refuse, four heavy pieces of metal being carried now this side, now that, as the vessel rolls, and only a few light stanchions and a wooden ladder to assist one in dodging the huge masses. It is strange that some of the men were not killed. For two or three hours this unequal war was waged and during that time the chief officer was thrown badly against a stanchion, his shoulder blade being dislocated and one rib being broken. The carpenter, too, had two bones of one of his feet smashed, and the second officer had his leg injured. These accidents occurred at about 4 p.m. on Wednesday. Before that time, however, one of the blades fell through the open hold, whither the captain and chief officer followed it to secure it, in which undertaking they were successful. Eventually one blade was secured in the 'tween decks and slung and lowered with the aid of the steam winch into the hold. Some time after 6 p.m. the other two blades fell into the hold. Before that, however, they had pierced a hole in the port side and knocked out two plates on the starboard side. As soon as the blades had been got out of the way efforts were made to patch up the gaps made on the starboard side, by driving in baulks and wedges of wood with blankets, mattresses, etc. Long before this very necessary work could be effected immense quantities of water had found their way into the lower hold and 'tween decks, throwing the ship very much down by the stern. The breakdown in the engine room lasted between four and five hours. At about 6 p.m. the engines were once more set in motion. All day Thursday as well the ship was more or less at the mercy of the waves, though under steam, as it was impossible to keep her head on, the ship being so light. There was nothing to do but to run before the tempest. The pumps

were started Wednesday afternoon and are still at work. On Thursday all hands were kept busy baling water out of the hold and a force pump was also worked from the main deck. The after hand pump could not be used as the pipe as well as several stanchions, etc., had been carried away by the propeller blades. The weather moderated between 4 and 8 o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning fortunately. At noon yesterday the ship was discovered to be about 40 miles south and east of Oshima. A Japanese steamer was met at 4.30 p.m. yesterday, with which signals were exchanged to verify the ship's position. The ship arrived here at 10 a.m. to-day.

The picture presented on board is one not easily to be forgotten, the twisted and torn stanchions, ladders, pipes, etc., together with the fractured hatch combings, all of solid iron of course, bearing ample evidence as to the nature of the danger. When the ship arrived here she was ten feet by the stern with a heavy list to port. It may be seen from this what the position of the ship must have been 36 or 48 hours ago, before the pumps had materially reduced the volume of water in the holds.

Too much credit cannot be given the ship's officers and engineers for their determined and happily successful struggle against the elements and a train of adverse circumstances. All hands have been constantly at work for sixty hours. The accident in the engine department was due to the low pressure gear giving out. This necessitated the disconnection of the h.p. engine and the use of the intermediate and l.p. engines alone. Notwithstanding the difficulty of working in such a sea, this was successfully accomplished. Twenty hours later the intermediate valve gear also gave out, but this defect was remedied in less time, as the h.p. gear was at hand with which to effect repairs. It is fortunate the ship carries four European engineers, as the lion's share of the work in the engine room devolved upon them. The Chinese crew lost heart again and again and had to be driven to their places at times.

The names of the ship's company are as following:—Prentice, captain; E. Liddle, chief officer; R. Linfott, second officer; G. Gebbert, third officer; H. Wilson, chief engineer; D. McFee, second engineer; Hattersley, third engineer; and Power, fourth engineer.

Captain Prentice was badly injured in one foot in trying to secure something on deck. The ship was visited by Mr. Ellerton, Lloyd's Surveyor, early this afternoon, but it is not yet decided whether the repairs will be effected here or at Nagasaki.

HONGKONG.

The event of the week has been the unveiling of the statue erected in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. The ceremony was performed by His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, on Thursday last, the day appointed for the celebration of the Queen's birthday, and a general holiday was observed. Every British and foreign official in the colony attended and, in addition to two thousand troops, thousands of people turned out to witness what was a very brilliant function. On Friday two men were convicted of arson, a crime which is very prevalent in the colony, and the Chief Justice sent them to gaol for twelve years with hard labour. The total number of plague cases to date is 1,021, and among the patients this week were three Britishers, one of them, a soldier, having died a few hours after he was seized.

There were 1,508 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 123 were Europeans.

Vessels arriving at Haiphong from Hongkong are to be subjected to seven days' quarantine.

Mr. Ward, the new organist of St John's Cathedral, arrived on the 27th May by the P. & O. steamer *Aden*.

It is notified that the Vaccine Institute will be closed during the summer months from 1st June to 30th September, 1896.

On Friday afternoon Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., addressed the members of the Odd Volumes Society, taking for his subject Mahan's book, "The influence of sea power on history."

The *Carmarthenshire*, with the *Bonington* in tow, arrived safely at Nagasaki about two o'clock on Thursday afternoon. As she sailed hence about 3 p.m. on Saturday, the 23rd inst., this would mean an average speed of nine knots for the voyage.

A correspondent writing to the *Singapore Free Press* from Pahang says:—The cyanide process at Punjom is paying, but it has poisoned the Priok River; the fish in that river die, at any rate. The other day an alligator ten feet long was killed by the poison.

On the 31st May the C. P. steamer *Empress of China*, which arrived here on Tuesday, spoke the German steamer *Peiyang* lying at anchor in lat 29.38 N., long. 122.39 E., with her shaft broken. She wished to be reported to her owners and have a tug sent to her.

We hear that the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's earnings for April amount to \$132,000, making a total for the first four months of the year (including the amount brought forward) of something over \$500,000, a most remarkable result and one that makes a record in the Company's annals.

It is notified that the following Ordinances have been approved:—An Ordinance to prevent doubts as to the validity of documents heretofore sealed with the seal of the Colonial Court of Admiralty of Hongkong; An Ordinance to amend the practice as to the vacating of the registration of a *Lis pendens*; An Ordinance for the incorporation of the President in Hongkong of the Basel Evangelical Missionary Society.

A dealer carrying on business in Wanchai was charged at the Magistracy on the 2nd June with selling old iron without a licence. The defendant is the owner of the shell which exploded some time ago in Bullock Lane and injured three people, and it turned out that he was in the habit of selling shells and other metal without a licence. He was fined 50 cents and the metal, which was worth a considerable sum, was ordered to be dumped into the sea.

On the arrival of the P. & O. homeward English mail steamer *Mirzapore* in harbour on Tuesday morning she proceeded to the quarantine anchorage. The Medical Officer of the port went on board and was shown an English steward who was suffering from smallpox. The patient was at once transferred to the *Hygeia* and the usual precautions were taken on the vessel. The mails were not delivered until 3.30 p.m. as they had to be disinfected.

From the *Comercio* we learn that the American ship *Berlin*, from Amoy to the United States with tea, arrived at Manila on the 21st May with the captain injured. The vessel had been caught in the typhoon and in one of seas that washed the deck the captain received severe injuries to his left leg, which incapacitated him for duty, and he consequently put into Manila to obtain another captain to navigate the vessel to her destination.

There were 20 cases of plague on the 26th May, on the 27th 12, on the 28th 13, on the 29th 18, on the 30th 17, on the 31st 7, on the 1st June 6, and on the 2nd 8. Amongst the patients on the 26th was Sapper Barr, of the Royal Engineers, who died on the 28th. Private Simmonds, of the Rifle Brigade, was attacked on the 1st June and died while being taken to hospital. Another European patient is the four year old son of Inspector Hanson, who is supposed to have contracted the disease from some of the people who have visited Inspector Hanson's station from plague infected houses.

The first annual general meeting of the Fire Insurance Association of Hongkong was held at the offices of the China Fire Insurance Co. on Friday afternoon. Mr. Macbean, Chairman of the Association, presided. Twenty-four Companies were represented. The Chairman, before moving the adoption of the report and accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1896, addressed those present, reviewing the work done by the Association during the year. The following gentlemen were elected the Committee for the current year:—Messrs. Macbean (Chairman), Tomlin, Fuhrmann, C. H. Lammert, Wicking, Alex. Ross, and Crombie (Hon. Secretary.) On the motion of Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Wicking, a vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring Committee. With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting ended.

Owing to the absence of rain the water supply is now turned on for only a limited time each day.

An Allahabad despatch of 14th May states that Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Barrow, Assistant Adjutant-General, Rawalpindi, will officiate as junior Deputy Secretary in the Military Department during Captain De Brath's absence with the Suakim force.

From the *Courrier de Saigon* we learn that on the arrival of the steamer *Gloucester City* at Saigon from Hongkong a Chinese member of the crew was sent to hospital suffering from an illness suspected to be bubonic plague. The entire crew was placed under observation until further orders.

At the Police Court on the 27th May, before Hon. Commander Hastings, two coolies were charged with unlawfully wounding two other coolies in a house at 11, Rutter Street. Several coolies squabbled in the house and a hand to hand conflict resulted, the prisoners, armed with hatchets, being apparently the most determined of the rowdies. They cracked one coolie's head and badly wounded another in the leg. The accused were remanded, as the injured coolies are being attended to at the Government Civil Hospital.

A special session of Justices was held at the Magistracy on the 27th May, when Elizabeth Goldberg applied for a transfer of her publican's licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises at Nos. 90 and 92, Queen's Road West, known as "The Western Hotel," to Fitzroy Ingledeu Francis Bedford, formerly of the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade. Mr. Bowley appeared for the applicant. There were no objections by the Police. The Magistrates present were Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Mr. E. W. Mitchell, and Mr. W. M. B. Arthur, and they unanimously agreed to grant the application.

Peter Gruenwald, the second engineer of the *Martha*, was brought up at the Police Court on the 26th May charged with shooting and wounding two coolies during the affray on the vessel on Monday last. Mr. Mounsey appeared for the prosecution and said that his clients were in the hospital, one of them being very seriously wounded, and he therefore asked for a remand. Prisoner, through Inspector Hanson, admitted firing the shots, but he did not know he had hit anybody. He did not fire direct at any particular coolies, but simply amongst them. Hon. Commander Hastings remanded the case until the 3rd June.

Mr. May, second master at Queen's College, gave information to the police on Tuesday morning of a robbery from his residence at 3, Mountain View, Peak. About breakfast time Mrs. May discovered that many silver articles, of the value of \$35, were missing and she at once suspected a houseboy whom she discharged on the 23rd of last month. The boy went to the house on Monday night and made an enquiry for Mr. May, and early in the morning he was seen prowling about the house. It is thought that he entered the place by an open window and made off with the property. The police are now looking for him.

On the 2nd June Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings held an inquest at the gaol concerning the death of a prisoner named Wong Kam Po. The following jurymen assisted in the investigation:—Messrs. C. H. Grace, E. A. L. Stephany, and G. Seirich. The evidence showed that the deceased was admitted to the gaol on the 11th of last month, having been sentenced to twenty-eight days' hard labour for theft. On the 18th ult. he was flogged for misconduct and received six strokes with the rattan. This flogging evidently served him no purpose as on the 26th he again committed a breach of prison discipline and the Superintendent and a visiting justice ordered the prisoner a further punishment of twelve strokes. On both occasions he was medically examined and declared in a fit condition to bear the castigation. He was put into the hospital on the 27th ult. and his wounds were treated. On 1st June Dr. Bell, Medical Officer at the gaol, found the man very weak and ordered him brandy and milk and other delicacies, but these were of no avail and he died at 1.45 a.m. on the 2nd June from blood poisoning due to abscesses which had formed on the buttocks. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with this evidence.

We have received the first number of *The Rattle*, a new serio-comic illustrated monthly published at Shanghai by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh. Its aim is "to be funny without being vulgar, to point the moral and annex the tael." We wish our contemporary all success, a long life and a merry one. The principal cartoon in the present number is "The conversion of Chou Han," a very clever production. A short sketch of the racing career of Mr. Ring will be appreciated by sportsmen.

At the Magistracy on the 27th May Li Yau Chun and Lo Man Lun, joint owners of the Yu Hing pawnshop at Yaunati, were charged with making false entries in their books with regard to nine revolvers on seven different dates. Mr. K. W. Mounsey appeared for the defendants, who, he explained, did not reside in Hongkong, the business being conducted by an assistant who appeared before the Court that day to answer the charge. Mr. Mounsey, on behalf of his clients, practically admitted the offence and asked his Worship not to inflict the full penalty, as the defendants had done all in their power to assist the police in connection with the recent shooting affray. Inspector Stanton said the revolvers were described in the books as broken iron, and were pledged for small amounts. They were actually good firearms. His Worship said it was within his power either to inflict a fine, close the shop, or cancel the licence. Mr. Mounsey hoped the Court would not be so severe as that, as it was impossible for the defendants, although they were responsible, to absolutely supervise what was done by their assistant whilst they were out of the colony. His Worship said a fine of \$30 would be imposed in respect of each offence—\$210 in all. He added that in the event of the same thing occurring again the licence would be taken away. The arms were ordered to be retained by the police.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Benjamin, Kelly and Potts...	\$25
N. J. Ede	25
Hon. H. E. Pollock	25
A. H. Rennie	25
Shewan and Co.	25
Colonel Anstey, C.R.E.	20
Commodore Boyes, R.N.	20
H. Z. Just & Co.	15
Tang Man Hing	10
The Eastern Manufacturing Co.	10
Po On Marine Insurance Co., Ltd.	10
W. Hutton Potts	10
Un Lai Chuen	10
James H. Cox	10
Lamke and Rogge	10
H. Ruttonjee	10
Miss R. Mackenzie	5
R. L. B.	5
T. Hall	5
J. H. Maclehose	5
A. Becker	5
L. Mallory	5
More and Seimund	5
A. Rodger	5
K. W. Mounsey	2
R. C. Hurley	5
John Lemm	5
J. Rosset	5
F. C. Keeka and Co.	3
M. J. Patell	2
S. A. Joseph	2
P. C. Patell and Co.	2
J. S. Perry	2
Wan Hoo	2

Heavy rains at Shanghai have led to the collapse of the roofs of three filatures. On the morning of the 28th May the roof of the Kinlung Filature in Hongkew, of which Messrs. Bayer and Co. are the agents, fell. Three girls were killed on the spot, and a large number more or less injured. On the afternoon of the same day part of the roof of a new building near Boundary Road, Hongkew, fell in, but fortunately no one was hurt. On the 29th the roof of one situated near the Kinlung Filature fell in, seriously injuring three men, one of whom is not expected to recover.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

Heavy rain was experienced in Canton and in the neighbouring districts on the night of the 22nd instant. Over one foot of water was reported in the districts of San-oi, Sun-tak, Pun-u, and Hok-shan. Ten houses were washed away by the heavy torrents of rain in a village in Hok-shan district, about twenty houses were blown down by a strong gale in a village in Pun-u district, and a junk which was plying between Canton and Tak-shik village foundered on her voyage. Nearly all the streets in Fatahan were completely covered with water to the height of five or six inches.

About one hundred robbers made an attack on a village named Chun-sam-kiang, which contains only forty houses. The robbers ransacked every house and took away all the contents of value. The villagers dared not offer resistance.

Owing to the large demands for rice from the province of Kwangsi, on account of the famine, the price of that necessity of life is very high. Some time ago the Viceroy sent two weiyuens to Wuhu to buy rice, which arrived on the 25th instant. It is said that half of the rice will be sent to Kwangsi and the other half will be exposed for sale in Canton at a cheap rate.

Viceroy Tan Chung-lun has ordered Colonel Ching Yan-tsoi, under instructions from the Peking Government, to disband thirty per cent. of the force of soldiers throughout Kwangtung.

Telegraphic information has been received in Canton to the effect that H. E. Hu Tsan-wai, the new Governor of Canton, passed the Nam-hung mountain on the 24th inst. His Excellency has brought with him a Chinese writer, a military officer, and thirty servants. It is said that he will arrive at Canton in a day or two.

The eldest son of Viceroy Tan arrived at Canton on the 22nd instant. He has brought with him for his father a coffin, which is completely covered with red satin.

On the 17th inst. in Kwai-sin district seven soldiers passing along the street wanted to buy sugar-cane from a woman, but they did not pay what she asked, and the woman refused to sell the sugar-cane to them. The soldiers began to strike the woman and took away all her sugar-cane. The woman followed them and cried. The occupants of a shoemaker's shop named Sai-wo had watched what the soldiers had been doing, and they sprang forward and forced the soldiers to return the sugar-cane to the poor woman. The soldiers then threw the sugar-cane on the road and ran away. A few minutes afterwards fourteen soldiers broke into the shoemaker's shop and took away all its valuable contents and threw all the other things out into the street. The Kaifong people, who became very angry, at once shut all the gates and tried to capture the soldiers, who immediately escaped. At last three soldiers were captured and they were sent to the Magistrate of Wai-sui district. The other soldiers, who resented the capture of three of their comrades, at once gathered a large number of soldiers, surrounded the city, and demanded the release of the captives. The Magistrate was greatly frightened and ordered the city gates to be closed. Some soldiers tried to get into the city by breaking down the city wall. At last General Cheung Chang-fat arrived and the soldiers were dispersed. All the shops were closed from the 17th to the 20th and the shop people did not reopen their shops till the Magistrate came to them and said that he would adjudicate on the matter rightly and justly. The Magistrate distributed small packages of fire-crackers to each of the shops and when they reopened their shops they all fired the crackers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following telegram was sent from Shanghai on the Queen's Birthday:—"Queen Victoria, Windsor. British residents Shanghai send respectful heartfelt congratulations Her Majesty's seventy-seventh anniversary." The following telegraphic answer was received:—"Windsor, 24th May. To British Residents, Shanghai. The Queen thanks you for kind message. Private Secretary."

Referring to the recent land boom at Shanghai, in which the speculation has been mainly on the part of Chinese, a correspondent of the *Mercury* writes:—"In consequence of the high rate of interest charged by the native banks, which as a rule hold all the deeds, prices have gone down considerably and some of the poorer speculators are now trying to resell at a sacrifice, but no one is willing to speculate, and it is believed that, should this go on for any length of time, a great many of these venture-some speculators will be ruined."

With reference to the new coal and iron mines at Ch'ihai, Kiangsu, which have been approved by the foreign advisers of Hu Chia-chen, Director-General of Mines in Kiangsu, we learn that the projected railway between Chinkiang and Nanking will run within five miles of the new mines and that the mine owners there have petitioned the Nanking Viceroy to be allowed to build a branch line from the mines to connect with the railroad proper. All machinery for the mines and branch line will be ordered from Europe.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The operation of raising the *Laiyuen*, a Chinese cruiser sunk at Weihaiwei, it seems, is being pushed forward with success. Intelligence has been received at Yokohama to the effect that an anchor of new pattern, a shaft, 111 tons of iron, and 35,200 cabbies of yellow metal, which were recently raised, had been shipped by the *Kokura-maru*, together with sundry articles. They are expected to arrive there shortly. The divers working on the cruiser have been rewarded with unexpected gains. Firewood being very scarce at Weihaiwei, they recently raised a sailing vessel with a view to using her for fuel. They obtained a sound mast, two anchors, and 15 chains, in addition to brass and other metals.—*Japan Advertiser*.

The *Courrier de Saigon* of the 27th May says:—"On the occasion of the fêtes in connection with the coronation now being celebrated, in the presence of representatives of all nations, in the ancient Muscovite capital, the men-of-war have hoisted their great flag. This has been arranged under Ministerial orders received direct from France. It appears strange to us that the fête should be honoured only by the hoisting of a few Russian and French flags. Not a single gun fired, not a single Venetian lantern displayed! Everyone in Saigon has been shocked by the little regard paid, under the special circumstances, to the ties which unite us to Russia. Was it necessary to adhere strictly to the orders from France? The Governor ought to have remembered that the Ministers are either fools or idiots."

Referring to the court-martial held at Hankow on the Chinese cook of the *Esk* who some months ago accidentally shot a man while firing on a range in connection with sports held on shore, the *N. C. Daily News* says:—"We learn that on the arrival of H.M.S. *Spartan* at Hankow no one seemed to know if a Chinese official was going to attend the court-martial. Captain Winsloe accordingly sent his card to the Taotai with a message saying that he had come up to hold the trial of the Chinese cook of the *Esk*, and that an official would be admitted to the Court, if one wished to attend. The reply was that the day fixed was most inconvenient, as it was the day for holding criminal appeals, but that if Captain Winsloe would postpone the trial for one day the Taotai would attend in person. This was a most inconvenient request, as it might cause some of the witnesses to miss the *Empress of Japan*, by which they were going to Yokohama; and it also seemed that as the Taotai had had three weeks' notice of the date of trial, he might have objected earlier. However, Captain Winsloe acceded to the request, as he did not wish the Taotai to be able to say that the court-martial was held on a day on which he could not possibly be present. Captain Winsloe then found that the Taotai proposed to sit on the bench as a magistrate with him, as is done in a Mixed Court trial, and when it was explained to him that he was only invited to come as a spectator, he turned round and said he had no instructions and would not come. The investigation proved the affair to have been a pure accident on the part of the cook, and that the person who selected the range put it in a very unfortunate place."

The N. C. Daily News of the 28th May says:—Native advices received from Hangchow report that owing to the fine weather recently experienced the silk producing centres in Ché-kiang province have been able to bring out silk cocoons of a specially fine kind, which are much superior to those put on the market for the last two or three years. Prices also promise to be below those quoted last season. The market, however, has not yet opened, but will probably do so within a fortnight from hence. Already hundreds of cocoon brokers and buyers from all parts of the country, notably Shanghai, are gathering at Hangchow in order to have the pick of the market.

The China Gazette of the 25th May says:—Mr. Carlson, of the Harbour Department, and Messrs. Wilson and Payne, Customs divers, left Shanghai on Saturday morning last in the tug *Fuhlee* for the purpose of blowing up the sunken pilot boat *Syren*. The *Fuhlee* anchored close to the wreck at 1.30 p.m. and all preparations having been made by 5 p.m. the torpedoes were fired and the result proved a great success. Two torpedoes, each charged with 500 lbs. of gunpowder and 10 lbs. of dynamite, were placed one on the starboard quarter and the other under the bluff of the port bow. Both were fired simultaneously, and the wreck was not only completely shattered and blown to the surface, but the greater part went fifty feet in the air.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 25th May.—Business reported since the 18th inst. is as under:—

	1896.	1895.
Settlements ... 189,032 ½-chts.		175,430 ½-chts.
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
	per picul.	
Ningchows... 32,106 ½-chts. at Tls.	16.00 to 63.00	
Khemuns ... 17,387 " "	23.00 to 46.00	
Ho-hows..... 3,531 " "	15.00 to 16.50	
Wenchows... 924 " "	19.00 to 21.00	
Oopacks 63,059 " "	15.00 to 44.00	
Onams 30,179 " "	14.50 to 40.00	
Onfaas 28,924 " "	28.00 to 49.00	
Seang-tams... 10,922 " "	11.00 to 22.50	

The entire business to date as compared with the corresponding number of days from the opening of last season, viz., 16 days.

	1896.	1895.
For London and America 72,000 ½-chts.		90,000 ½-chts.
For Russia 192,125 " "		406,294 " "
	264,125 " "	496,294 " "

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama 431,553		1,001,127
Kobe 35,163		156,540
	466,716	1,157,667

SILK.

CANTON, 2nd May.—Tsatlées and Re-reels.—Remain quite neglected. Dealers are offering contracts in new season's Re-reels at subjoined quotations, but American buyers are deaf to all proposals. Filatures.—Have attracted very little attention and even the light demand previously ruling for finest sizes has dropped off. The few settlements reported include: Cheong Kee 9/11 at \$612½, Miu King Lu 11/13 at \$610, Chung Sun Hang 10/12 at \$592½, Man Po Sing 10/12 and Yu Wo Cheong 13/15 at \$575, Shiu King Lun 18/22 at \$495. There are no signs of life yet in the American trade. Waste.—Is unchanged and quiet with a fair demand in Steam at \$73/74 for Market Extra. Stocks.—Tsatlée, 200 bales; Filatures, 5/6,000 bales, carried over to next season. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 6 months' sight 2/2½ and Fcs. 2.82 per Dollar:—

Tsatlée	No. 1 \$445	= 8/8
	No. 2 \$430	= 7/11½
	No. 3 \$415	= 7/8½
	No. 4 \$405	= 7/6
	No. 4½ \$400	= 7/5
	No. 5 \$390	= 7/3

Filature 1st class	11/13...\$610 to \$600
1st "	13/15...\$610 to \$600
2nd "	9/11...\$610
2nd "	10/12...\$590 to \$595
2nd "	13/15...\$570 to \$580
2nd "	10/12...\$565 to \$570
3rd "	11/13...\$500 to \$475
3rd "	13/15...\$500 to \$475

Long-reels Lacklow	\$480
Satow	\$465
Suilam	\$420
Re-reels Lacklow No. 1.	\$485
No. 2.	\$470
No. 3.	\$455
No. 4.	\$435
Mahang No. 1.	\$460
Punjun Books No. 3 & 4.	\$80
Punjun Waste	\$70
Steam Waste Extra	\$92
Market Extra ... \$74 to \$75	= 1/5½ to 1/5½
No. 1	\$57
Gum Waste No. 2	\$50
Re-reel Waste	\$86
Pierced Cocoons	\$62

Settlements for the fortnight:—

	1895-96.	1894-95.
For Europe ... 200 bales		500 bales.
For America .. " "		180 " "
For Bombay .. 60 " "		100 " "
	[& 30 piculs.	[& 50 piculs.

SHANGHAI, 28th May.—(From Mr. A. R. Burkill's circular)—London advices continue to quote Gold Kilins at 7/10½, Blue Elephants at 10/-, advising a very quiet market there. Raw Silk.—The actual purchases of the week are on a very small scale. No Tsatlées have changed hands, but about 100 bales China filatures have been booked at quotations. Yellow Silks.—To extent of some 50 bales are reported settled and also 250 bales Tussah Raws. New Crop.—Country advices continue to come indecisive in tone and rather conflicting, but it appears unlikely that there will be any appreciable decrease or increase in the crop of 1896-97 as compared with the season now closing. Some contracts have been made for Coarse Silks for delivery July onwards on a basis, I believe, of Tls. 347½ for 9/12 Moss Ex. No. 1 Green Stock and Tls. 250/255 for No. 4. Arrivals.—As per Customs Returns, 21st and 27th May, 71 bales White, 71 piculs Yellow, and 57 piculs Willt Silks. Waste Silk.—A purchase of Medium Blaze at Tls. 9.35 is reported and also some transactions in Old Wadding at Tls. 6.75. Pongees.—Shantungs 19 in. by 19 yds. 22 oz. have been taken at Tls. 2.65.

Purchases include:—Yellow Silk.—Nienchew at Tls. 230, Fooyung at Tls. 210. Filature—Black H rse 1 at Tls. 4.55, Fan Chop at Tls. 4.20. Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw at Tls. 195, Szechuen Tussah Raw at Tls. 112½.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Canton	19,748	16,624
Shanghai	57,691	50,769
Yokohama	24,004	20,679
	101,443	88,072

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Canton	9,387	8,978
Shanghai	10,310	9,925
Yokohama	28,661	27,430
	48,358	46,333

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Dullness prevails in this market and the decline in prices continues. Quotations for Formosa are \$12.50 to \$43.00. During the past week sales have been 150 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—The market is briske and a further advance in prices has to be reported. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.17 to 7.20 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.55 to 6.58 " "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.52 to 4.54 " "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.32 to 4.37 " "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.07 to 7.10 " "
do. " 2, White...	6.42 to 6.45 " "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.41 to 4.43 " "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.27 to 4.29 " "
Soochow Sugar Candy	10.82 to 10.85 " "
Shekloong	9.30 to 9.33 " "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Glenshiel*, Hongkong to Marseilles, 5th May, took:—106 packages Canes; for Manchester:—70 bales Waste Silk; for London:—1,000 bales Hemp, and 13 packages Sundries.

The P. & O. steamer *Java*, Hongkong to New York, 19th May, took:—29 cases Chinaware; for London:—582 packages Matting, 491 bales Canes, 42 cases Shell, 547 cases Chinaware, 51 cases Blackwoodware, 495 bales Waste Silk, 2 cases Fans, 5 cases Silk Piece Goods, 38 cases Opium, 99 cases Ginger, 62 packages Sundries, and 1,090 boxes Tea (22,890 lbs. Congou).

The P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*, Hongkong to Amsterdam, 21st May, took:—1 case Silk Piece Goods; for London:—2,057 packages Tea (25,772 lbs.) 2 cases Silk Piece Goods, 10 cases Cigars, and 4 packages Sundries; for Marseilles:—514 bales Raw Silk, and 2 cases Silk Piece Goods; for Milan:—25 bales Raw Silk; for Trieste:—70 bales Pierced Cocoons.

The steamer *Sydney*, Hongkong to France, 27th May, took:—155 bales Raw Silk, 250 bales Raw Silk, 10 bales Hair, 5 cases Silk Piece Goods, 250 packages Tea 4 packages Samples, and 100 packages Matting; for Milan:—15 bales Raw Silk; for London:—1 case Silk Piece Goods.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Bengal.—There has been a further drop in rates, the market closing weak at \$660 for New Patna, \$705 for Old Patna, \$662½ for New Benares, and \$725 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—A small business has been done in this drug during the interval at slightly lower rates than those last reported. Latest quotations are as under:—

New	\$750 with all'ance of 3½ to 4½ cts.
Old (2/6 yrs.)	\$760 " 1½ to 2 " "
" (7/10 ")	\$770 " 1 to 1½ " "

Persian.—The market has further declined. Paper-wrapped is quoted at the close at \$600 to \$64½, and Oily at \$370 to \$600 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	1,870 chests.
Old Patna	530 " "
New Benares	290 " "
Old Benares	86 " "
Malwa	370 " "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
May 27	677½	722½	680	740	750	760/770
May 28	677½	722½	680	740	750	760/770
May 29	675	715	677½	735	750	760/770
May 30	672½	715	675	735	750	760/770
May 31	672½	715	675	735	750	760/770
June 1	670	715	672½	735	750	760/770
June 2	665	710	665	730	750	760/770
June 3	660	705	662½	725	750	760/770

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Arrivals have been very heavy in the past fortnight, while the demand has also slackened. This has had the effect of putting prices down by 50 cents per picul, closing tendency downwards. Stocks: Bengal, 8,000 bales.

Bombay	\$12.00 to 15.50 p. pl.
Kurrachee	12.00 to 15.00 " "
Bengal, Rangoon, and	15.00 to 15.90 " "
Dacca	
Shanghai and Japanese..	18.00 to 20.00 " "
Tungchow and Ningpo..	18.00 to 20.00 " "
Madras	13.00 to 16.00 " "

Sales: 400 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—The upward tendency has been arrested, the Canton market being weaker. Closing quotations are:—

	per picul.
Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.39 to 2.33
" Round, good quality	2.61 to 2.64
" Long	2.73 to 2.75
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.60 to 2.62
" Garden, " No. 1	2.82 to 2.84
" White	3.12 to 3.14
" Fine Cargo	3.31 to 3.34

COALS.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Sales of 2,000 tons Cardiff on private terms and 5,000 Japanese at \$4.35 to \$5.35 are reported. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$12.00 to 13 ex ship, nominal.
Australian	7.00 to 7.25 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Lump	5.69 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small	4.65 to — ex ship, do
Moji Lump	4.00 to 5.25 ex ship, nominal

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—845 bales No. 10 at \$69 to \$76.50, 575 bales No. 12 at \$74 to \$78, 205 bales No. 16 at \$81 to \$90.75, 1,075 bales No. 20 at \$88.50 to \$92.50. **Grey Shirtings.**—600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss B. at \$2.87½, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Stag at \$3.75, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Snake and Elephant at \$2.75, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Unicorn at \$2.68, 350 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.77½, 500 pieces 10 lbs. 2 Lions at \$3.75. **White Shirtings.**—500 pieces S. O. at \$3.90, 500 pieces Flower at \$4.65, 1,000 pieces Elephant at \$4.75, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.60, 150 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.70, 150 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.55. **T-Cloths.**—750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican 4 Dragon and Flag at \$2.15, 500 pieces 7 lbs. Crown Chop at \$2.27½, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$2.60, 550 pieces 7 lbs. Bear at \$2.77½, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Horse at \$2.60, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.30, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Silver Lion No. 2 at \$1.78, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Blue Dragon R. B. at \$2.25. **Drills.**—150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.20. **Metals.**—Iron.—100 kegs Wire Nails at \$4.10. Lead.—840 piculs Australia at \$6.50. Quicksilver.—580 flasks at \$104 to \$106.50. **COTTON YARN.**

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$68.00 to \$91.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	104.00 to 108.00
„ 22 to 24	109.00 to 112.00
„ 28 to 32	114.00 to 119.00
„ 38 to 42	124.00 to 131.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs.	1.85 to 2.05
8½ lbs.	2.20 to 3.10
9 to 10 lbs	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.30 to 2.50
58 to 60 „	2.65 to 3.25
64 to 66 „	3.30 to 3.75
Fine „	4.05 to 6.90
Book-folds.	3.20 to 5.40
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.60 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. (32 „), „	1.80 to 2.95
6lbs. (32 „), Mexs.	1.60 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 „), „	2.15 to 2.40
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	2.35 to 3.05
Drills, English—40 yds, 13½ to 14lbs.	3.20 to 4.30

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs.	1.30 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed	3.75 to 4.50
	per yard
Damasks	0.12 to 0.15
Chintzes—Assorted	0.07 to 0.10
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.21 to 0.28
Velveteens—18 in.	0.16 to 0.20

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.40 to 0.85
WOOLLENS

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.60 to 0.95
German	1.00 to 1.15
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.25 to 3.50
	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.90 to 8.00
Assorted	7.00 to 8.10
Camlets—Assorted	13.00 to 27.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	10.00 to 18.00
Orleans—Plain	3.00 to 3.60

Blankets—8 to 12lbs. 4.20 to 4.80
METALS

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	3.05 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar	3.00 to —
Swedish Bar	4.75 to 4.80
Small Round Rod	3.55 to —
Hoop	4.50 to —
Old Wire Rope	3.00 to —
Lead, Australian	6.70 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. 25.50 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz. 25.00 to —
Elliot's, 16/32 oz. 24.50 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs 24.75 to —
Tin 35.50 to 35.75

Tin-Plates 4.90 to —
Steel 4.25 to —
SUNDRIES

	per picul
Quicksilver	106.50 to —
	per box
Window Glass	3.30 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	1.95 to —

SHANGHAI, 28th May.—(From Messrs. Noél, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report.)—A quiet week has followed the large transactions published in our last report, and the number of sales reported is very limited. The attention of the dealers has been confined chiefly to American Sheetings, 64-reed White Shirtings and Fancy Goods, while an improvement is to be noted for Indian made goods; besides which a fair amount of Indent business has been transacted, particulars of which are not obtainable, but it is said prices for them are not under those for spot cargo. Clearances continue satisfactory, but have again been much interfered with by the erratic rates of native interest, which, however, at the close are on a much lower level than hitherto and from native information it would appear that the recent tightness of money has in a great measure finished. There is not much news from the outports this week; the only feature of importance being an improvement in enquiry from Newchwang for Drills and Sheetings. Some purchases have already been made for this market of American Sheetings and Drills and more are wanted, while there are also some orders for English makes. Tientsin is quieter, while Chefoo and Ningpo are much the same as reported last week. There is no change to report in the advices from the river ports.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report.)—29th May:—Metals.—Market remains quiet, business being almost suspended. Lead is being enquired for at \$11.50 for Australian, early arrivals, but as holders are firm for higher figures, nothing has been done. Home market remains steady, and the main hindrances to trade are heavy stocks, and the excessive rate of native interest that has been ruling. To-day the native money market is easier.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—With a dull and inactive market, we have nothing of any importance to report since date of our last. Rates have ruled quiet with an inclination to weakness, and the market closes quiet.

BANKS.—All Bank stock has been neglected, and we have no business to report except small sales of Hongkong and Shanghai at 185 per cent. prem.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have found investing buyers at \$79½, and more could be placed at the rate. Unions have changed hands at \$225, and are in demand at that rate. Cantons continue strangely neglected. Yangtzes and North-Chinas have ruled quiet, with shares offering from the North, and only small sales at quotations. Straits have been and are enquired for, and sales have been effected at \$28½ and \$29 cash; at time of writing \$29½ cash would probably be paid for shares if forthcoming.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Small sales of Hongkongs at \$325 and of Chinas at \$93½ and \$93 is all we have to report. Market closes quiet.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have changed hands pretty freely at \$34, and a sale is reported at \$34½, closing firm at \$34. Indo-Chinas with shares offering from the North have gone back to \$69 without buyers; in the early part of the week a fair number of shares changed hands at \$71, \$70½, and \$70. China and Manilas continue steady at \$67½ with sales and are in demand at that rate. Douglasses have again improved to \$61 with sales at that, and at \$57, \$58, \$59, and \$60, market closing firm at \$61 to \$61½.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue neglected at quotation. Luzons after a small sale at \$62 are wanted at that rate.

MINING.—Punjoms have remained steady with but small business; sales have been effected in small lots at \$15½ and \$15½, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Balmorals have found further buyers at \$2½ and \$3, and close steady at last rate; a private meeting of shareholders is called for to-morrow to discuss an offer for the property. Jebebus have improved to \$3 with sales at that; after small transactions at \$2.80 and \$2.90; at time of closing shares could be placed at \$3. Raubs have ruled very steady and in fair demand, with sales at \$5½ and \$5½ ex dividend, market closing steady. Olivers have advanced to \$6½ and \$3½ without sales.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands at 184, 183½, and 183 per cent. prem., and a

small sale was effected at 185. At time of closing a few shares are obtainable at 184 for cash, and at 191 for August. The rather weaker tone of the stock is to be accounted for by the fact of some of the workmen having cleared out from Kowloon Dock Village and gone to their homes, because of a few cases of plague that occurred there. The management, however, does not anticipate more than a slight inconvenience from the exodus and is taking steps to eradicate the scourge from the Village, which, considering its small extent, its surroundings, and the possibilities of isolating it, should not be a very difficult matter. Kowloon Wharves have continued in good demand and a fair number have changed hands at \$47½ and \$48, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Wanchais have ruled neglected.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have changed hands at \$71½ and \$71, closing in demand at latter rate. Hotels have been very much quieter, with no sales, at quotations. West Points continue neglected.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have improved to \$16½ with sales, after small transactions at \$15½ and \$16, and close firm. Watsons have ruled weaker with sellers at \$12.75 and no buyers; \$12.50 would probably find sellers. H. G. Browns have changed hands and are wanted at \$7. Electrics have been negotiated at \$6.75, \$6.85, \$6.90, and \$7. Ropes have been done at \$119, \$119½, and \$120, and Fenwicks have been placed in fair lots at \$26.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		\$356.25, s. & s.
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	185 p. ct. prem.—
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$29, sales & buyers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$115, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	\$7, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	\$54, sales
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$117
Dakin, Cruickshank & Co.	\$5	\$0.50 sales
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$26, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$16½, sales & buyers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	\$10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$7, sales
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$95
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$35
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$108
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$48, sales & buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$120, sales & sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	183½ p. ct. prem.—
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$200, sellers
China Fire	\$50	\$93½, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$79½, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$335, sellers
North-China	\$25	Fls. 200 buyers
Straits	\$20	\$29, sales & buyers
Union	\$25	\$225, sales & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$145, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$71, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$19, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$62, sales & buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$72½
Jebebu	\$5	\$3, buyers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$3, sales & buyers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$6½, buyers
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$3½, buyers
Punjom	\$4	\$15½, sales & sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.80 sales & buyers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$5.50, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$67½, buyers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£7.10 sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8.10, sales & sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$81, sales & buyers
H., Canton and M...	\$15	\$34, sales & buyers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$69, sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$40, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12.75, sales & sel.

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 29th May.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The only transaction reported this week is a sale for 31st August, at 195 per cent. premium. The market remains

steady in Hongkong at 185, with buyers. While the private rate on Hongkong remains at 7 1/2, sales to that port at 185 would realize only 180 per cent. premium, with exchange 73. There is no business reported in shares in the National Bank or Bank of China and Japan. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been placed at Tls. 51 cash, Tls. 51 1/2 for 10th and 30th June, Tls. 53 1/2 for August, and from Hongkong for the same date at 73 1/2. The market closes quiet, with inclination to sell. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were sold to Hongkong at 333 1/2. Douglas Steamship shares are wanted, in Hongkong, at 177 1/2. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been sold at Tls. 205 cash, Tls. 210 for 30th June, and Tls. 212 1/2 for 31st July. Marine Insurance.—North Chinas have been sold at Tls. 202 and Tls. 20, and are offering at Tls. 202. Unions have been in strong demand, and shares were placed at 22 1/2. Straits have been dealt in at 23 1/2 to 23 3/4 cash, \$30 for 30th June, \$29 1/2 and \$30 for 31st July, and \$32 1/2 to \$32 3/4 for 31st December, and for the same date, from Hongkong, at 332. Yangtszes are offering. Fire Insurance.—There is no change to report in these stocks. Wharves.—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shares were sold, to Hongkong, at 47. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares are enquired for at Tls. 125. Mining.—Punjom Mining shares were placed locally at 15 1/2, and to Hongkong at 15 1/2. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares changed hands at Tls. 46, and a few shares are obtainable at the same price. China Sugar Refining shares were purchased, from Hongkong, at 117 1/2 for July, and 118 1/2 for August. Luzon Sugar Refining shares were sold to Hongkong at 61. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares are wanted. Hongkong Land Investment shares are wanted in Hongkong at 71 1/2. Humphreys Estate & Finance shares were purchased, from Hongkong, at 9 1/2. Industrial.—Shares in Major Brothers were sold, and are wanted, at Tls. 42. Ewo Cotton shares changed hands at Tls. 90. International shares at Tls. 75 (par), and Laou-kung-mow shares at Tls. 100. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in:—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 120 cash, and Tls. 125 for delivery on 15th August; Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 575 and Tls. 580 for delivery on 15th June; Hall & Holtz shares at 34; and shares in A. S. Watson & Co. at 12 1/2 ex dividend. J. Llewellyn & Co.—Shares are offering at 70. Quotations are:—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—\$355. National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$30. National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$115. Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, pref. shares.—Nominal. Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal. Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—£2. Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 51. China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—£8.50. China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. ord. shares.—£3 1s. 6d. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$33 1/2. Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$56 1/2. Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300. Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 205. S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 205. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$347. China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$79 1/2. North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$225. Yangtsze Insce. Assocn., Ltd.—\$147 1/2. Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$200. Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$28 1/2. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$325. China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$91 1/2. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 126. Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 55. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$46 20. Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 2 1/2. Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$15 1/2. Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$3 1/2. Jeletu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3 1/2. Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$5 1/2. Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 197 1/2. Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 115. Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 200. Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185. Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 46. China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$116. Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$62. Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid).—Tls. 82.

Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (\$30 paid).—Tls. 60. Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$71. Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$19 1/2. Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9 1/2. Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 42. Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 90. International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75. Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100. Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 300. Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 130. Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 260. Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 256. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 120. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 550. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 10,000. Shanghai Horsa Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 66. J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$70. Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$34. A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12 1/2. Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$8. Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$7.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS

WEDNESDAY, 3rd June.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.75
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.80
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.23
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	53 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	54 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	188
Bank, on demand	188 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	188
Bank, on demand	188 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1 1/2 % pm
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	16 1/2 % pm
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 1/2 % pm
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	8.97
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	46.90

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—During the past fortnight a fair amount of business has been transacted at practically the same rates in all directions as quoted in last report. In rice freights there has been some demand for Bangkok to this, but not more than 12 to 17 cents is offered. Saigon-Hongkong freights may be quoted at 10 cents and for small steamers a little better could be done. Newchwang-Canton business is very quiet and only about 19 cents is obtainable at present. From Java to Hongkong one fixture is reported at 17 1/2 cents per picul, but further tonnage is not wanted. In Japan coal freights there is not much doing. From Moji to Hongkong the rate remains at \$1.30. Moji to Singapore the last settlement reported is \$2. For sail tonnage there are no settlements to report. For New York requirements seem to be satisfied for the present. For San Francisco a ship might be placed at a low figure.

There are four vessels disengaged in port, registering 5,043 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Sinram—American ship, 1,589 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.

Com. T. H. Allen—American ship, 2,271 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.

Stanfield—British barque, 570 tons, hence to Rajang and back to Hongkong, private terms.

Kristina Nilsson—German barque, 280 tons, hence to Vladivostok and Nicolaieffsk, \$3,100.

Tellus—Norwegian steamer, 1,943 tons, Moji to Hongkong and Singapore, \$1.25 and \$2 per ton.

Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,519 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.30 per ton.

Pathan—British steamer, 1,762 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2 per ton.

Australian—British steamer, 1,783 tons, Newchwang to Whampoa (part cargo), 19 cents per picul.

Inverlay—British steamer, 827 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 21 cents per picul.

St. Louis—French steamer, 846 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 19 1/2 cents per picul.

Kwongsang—British steamer, 989 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 21 cents per picul.

Hupei—British steamer, 1,846 tons, Java to Hongkong (part cargo), 17 1/2 cents per picul.

Brunhilde—German steamer, 977 tons, hence to Bangkok and back to Hongkong, 19 1/2 cents per picul.

Talies—German steamer, 939 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 11 1/2 and 16 1/2 cents per picul.

Anjer Head—British steamer, 1,235 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Mascotte—British steamer, 2,018 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 9 1/2 cents per picul.

Strathlyon—British steamer, 1,511 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Glencarn—British steamer, 1,425 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, \$1,200 in full.

Benlarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Strathleven—British steamer, 1,585 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

J. Christensen—Norwegian steamer, 1,335 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Albingia—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 1/2 cents per picul.

Ocampo—British steamer, 1,329 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Sultan—Norwegian steamer, 1,626 tons, monthly, 3/2 months, private terms.

Britannic—Norwegian steamer, 1,507 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$5,150 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Ceylon (str.), Telamon (str.), Hyson (str.), Manila (str.), Japan (str.), Manila (str.), Teucer (str.), Benedi (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Natal (str.), Deike Rickmers (str.).
For BREMEN.—Prinz Heinrich (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—City of Peking (str.), Doric (str.), Socotra.
For VICTORIA.—Braemar (str.), Mount Lebanon (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Gerard C. Tobey, Sinram, Com. T. H. Allen, Benalder (str.), T. F. Oakes, Lucile.
For AUSTRALIA.—Airlie (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

May—
26, Brunhilde, German str., from Bangkok.
26, Clara, German str., from Amoy.
26, Aden, British str., from London.
27, Mazagon, British str., from London.
27, Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
27, Framnes, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
27, Gerda, German str., from Hamburg.
27, Governor Robie, Amr. ship, from Kobe.
27, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
27, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
27, Amara, British str., from Saigon.
27, Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., from Saigon.
28, Ask, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
28, Centaur, British str., from Sandakan.
28, Cosmopolit, German str., from Amoy.
28, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
28, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
28, Strathallan, British str., from Canton.
28, Yiksang, British str., from Newchwang.
28, Alderley, British str., from Bangkok.
29, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
29, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
29, Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.
29, Benlmond, British str., from London.
29, Arratoon Apar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
29, Benlarig, British str., from Saigon.
29, Ceylon, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Deuteros, German str., from Saigon.
30, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., from Bombay.
30, Hertha, German str., from Kobe.
30, St. Louis, French str., from Canton.
30, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
31, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. Francisco.
31, Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton.

31, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 31, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 31, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 31, Satsuma Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 31, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 31, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 31, Anchises, British str., from Rangoon.
 31, Gloucester City, British str., from Saigon.

June—

1, China, German str., from Saigon.
 1, Kaifong, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Lyeemooon, German str., from Shanghai.
 1, Polyphemus, British str., from Liverpool.
 1, Hoihow, British str., from Chinkiang.
 1, Nanyang, German str., from Wuhu.
 1, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
 1, Kalgan, British str., from Newchwang.
 1, Loksang, British str., from Newchwang.
 1, Ancona, British str., from Yokohama.
 1, Dordogne, French str., from Saigon.
 1, Hydaspes, British str., from Bombay.
 1, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 2, Yiksang, British str., from Canton.
 2, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Bremen.
 2, Mirzapore, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Cheangchew, British str., from Singapore.
 2, Empress of China, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 2, Arthur Head, British str., from Bombay.
 2, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 2, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
 2, Evandale, British str., from Moji.
 2, Wuhu, British str., from Sourabaya.
 3, Airlie, British str., from Kobe.
 3, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 3, Pyrrhus, British str., from London.
 3, Argyll, British str., from Saigon.
 3, Tetartos, German str., from Hoihow.
 3, Mathilde, German str., from Pakhoi.
 3, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
 3, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 3, Telamon, British str., from Amoy.

May—

DEPARTURES.

27, Anjer Head, British str., for Saigon.
 27, Clam, British str., for London.
 27, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 27, Picciola, German str., for Chefoo.
 27, Propontis, German str., for Tournon.
 27, Strathlyon, British str., for Saigon.
 27, Sydney, French str., for Europe.
 27, Velocity, British bark, for Honolulu.
 27, Hinsang, British str., for Singapore.
 27, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Ulysses, British str., for London.
 27, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 28, Aden, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 28, Martha, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Pectan, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
 28, Wongkoi, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Yiksang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Peacock, British g.-bt., for Shanghai.
 29, Clara, German str., for Tamsui.
 29, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 29, Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
 29, Shantung, British str., for Java.
 30, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 30, Achilles, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 30, Ceylon, British str., for London.
 30, Deuterios, German str., for Saigon.
 30, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 30, Suisang, British str., for Singapore.
 31, Benlomond, British str., for Nagasaki.
 31, Brunhilde, German str., for Bangkok.
 31, Gaelic, British str., for S. Francisco.
 31, Gerda, German str., for Yokohama.
 31, Ingraban, German str., for Penang.
 31, Invertay, British str., for Newchwang.
 31, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'chinotzu.
 31, Strathleven, British str., for Saigon.
 31, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.

June—

1, Hoihow, British str., for Canton.
 1, Kong Alf, Norw. str., for Tamsui.
 1, Nanyang, German str., for Canton.
 1, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Kaifong, British str., for Canton.
 2, Lyeemooon, German str., for Canton.
 2, Loksang, British str., for Canton.
 2, Kalgan, British str., for Canton.
 2, Lucy A. Nickels, Amr. ship, for New York.
 2, Anchises, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.

2, Kong Beng, British str., for Bangkok.
 2, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 2, Kwongsang, British str., for Chefoo.
 2, Polyphemus, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Chingping, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 3, Dordogne, French str., for Shanghai.
 3, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 3, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
 3, Britannic, Norw. str., for Kebao.
 3, Cheangchew, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Hertha, German str., for Hamburg.
 3, Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., for Saigon.
 3, Ocampo, British str., for Saigon.
 3, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
 3, Yiksang, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Devawongse*, str., from Koh-si-chang.—Mr. and Mrs. McFarland, Messrs. G. McFarland, and Meyer, and Miss Dunlop.

Per *Namoa*, str., from Coast Ports.—Messrs. Firth, Tamlin, and Anderson.

Per *Sydney*, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong—Mr. and Guedes, Messrs. C. Duncan Pochal, Girault, Sales, Lee Wai Hing, Tang Kee Sin, Misses P. and E. Sales. For Batavia—Miss Emma Gunther. For Bombay—Consul Klobukowski, Mr. Avasia. For Marseilles—Messrs. Rocher, Ackerman, St. Vital, St. Felix, King, and Arnott. From Yokohama for Hongkong—Messrs. Sestier and Galand. For Saigon—Messrs. Hevoal, Despax, Asselin, and Mrs. Kanissini. For Singapore—Messrs. Okutsu Kitchinokwa and S. Kintaro. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Courant, Messrs. Moloki Kondo, Abata, Oki, and Kasson. From Kobe for Singapore—Lieut. Hardcastle, Messrs. Banks, Franton, Sasaki, and Yomasaki. For Marseilles—Mr. Thos. Donaldson.

Per *Ulysses*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Master T. Sales.

Per *Strathleven*, str., from Tacoma, &c.—Messrs. Ivan and G. Smith.

Per *Aden*, str., from London for Hongkong—Mrs. Ross and 2 children, Miss Bailey, Mr. A. G. Ward, Capt. S. S. Long, Dr. Taylor, Lieut. Col. A. R. Fraser, and Capt. H. S. Langhorne. From Singapore—Messrs. Gandelins and J. Edwards. For Yokohama from London—Mr. J. Moss. For Singapore—Mr. Mohammed Ibrahim.

Per *Gerda*, str., from Hamburg, &c.—Messrs. Tegues and Roding.

Per *Taisang*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Spinny, Dr. A. Henry, Lieut. Dyer, Messrs. A. Millan, Williams, and L. Haesloop.

Per *Amara*, steamer, from Saigon.—Capt. Overton.

Per *Centaur*, str., from Sandakan—Capt. Cock, Messrs. Cordova and Graham.

Per *Kong Beng*, str., from Bangkok.—Messrs. Schuldt and Kroman.

Per *Arratoon Apar*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Messrs. Heysham, Gros, Zweicker, and Chan Yip Hong.

Per *Ceylon*, str., from Yokohama for Hongkong—Mr. C. S. George. From Nagasaki for London—Rev. A. Fuller, Mrs. Fuller and 3 children. From Kobe—Lieut. and Mrs. Callwell, Miss Naess. From Shanghai—Mrs. Barr and 2 children.

Per *Kaiser-i-Hind*, str., for Hongkong from London.—Messrs. Mumford, Ireland, and Dickie. From Brindisi.—Mr. F. B. Smith. From Bombay.—Mr. G. Schutze. From Singapore.—Rev. J. Gonsalves, Messrs. H. C. Honhert and W. H. Roe. For Shanghai from London.—Messrs. Johnson Bennett and Bennett, jun. From Brindisi.—Mr. J. Lyon. For Yokohama from London.—Mrs. S. W. B. Dichl and Rev. D. H. Briggs. From Brindisi.—Mrs. Farmer. From Port Said.—Mr. J. Hamel. From Marseilles.—Mr. R. A. Hurt.

Per *Formosa*, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Mr. A. H. Vickers.

Per *City of Peking*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Mr. C. Ewens.

Per *Yuensang*, str., from Manila—Capt. and Mrs. Whitmore, Messrs. J. Block, A. G. Smith, A. P. Rubio and son, and E. Medina.

Per *Lyeemooon*, str., from Shanghai.—Mrs. B. Schmacker, Miss Böning, 3 Misses Sheppellmann, Messrs. Hewcourt and Bergerowsky.

Per *Polyphemus*, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mrs. Davies and 2 children, and Mr. Rodgers.

Per *Anchises*, str., from Saigon.—Mr. Ewing.
 Per *Ancona*, str., from Yokohama.—Mr. C. W. Arnould, Mr. and Mrs. Fou Sun, Mrs. Nakamura, Mrs. Hayashida.

Per *Haitan*, str., from Coast Ports.—Mrs. Roach and child.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, str., from Bremen, &c.—Dr. Schubert, Dr. Whitney and family, Rev. J. Williams and family, Miss Rosa MacDonald, Messrs. Oberstalsaugh, W. Faust, W. G. Barrett, F. König, J. Dalton, H. Stanley Smith, J. L. Birley, J. Harrison, E. R. Gillet, Johs. Jamett, W. Ewald, and G. Ahrens, and 194 Chinese.

Per *Empress of China*, str., from Vancouver, &c.—Mrs. Wolseley Cox, Mrs. C. B. N. Dod and infant, Mrs. Nogarda, Mrs. Christina Bane, Master Willie, Capt. A. Tillett, Dr. F. A. Stedman, Messrs. R. Prentice, W. H. Cohen, E. A. Measor, F. W. Hall, G. S. Knox, A. G. M. Gomez, W. N. Fleming, and Fritz Moller.

DEPARTED.

Per *Taiyuan*, str., for Sydney—Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Clerk, Mrs. Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Greene, Misses Greene (2), Mrs. and Miss Sprague, Capt. Smith, Mrs. Van Neirp, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. C. Keats, Messrs. Sliman, Caurbarron, Nelson, J. D. Humphreys, S. S. Benjamin, D. Scoullar, W. H. Beckett, and T. Cumming.

Per *Karlsruhe*, str., from Shanghai for London—Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hart, Mrs. Kisneff, Messrs. S. Bowness and E. Lacy, Capt. Vaudin. For Bremen—Messrs. Goebel and Oetting. For Genoa—Messrs. Mulenhausen and Beck. For Singapore—Mr. E. Lobel. From Yokohama for Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Kornor. For Southampton—Mr. and Mrs. Townley, Mr. and Mrs. Worth. For Singapore—Mr. J. H. Kirshaw. From Hyogo for Southampton—Capt. Stewart, Messrs. W. Winchester, H. Evans, A. M. Quick, R. Morton, and J. H. Reach. From Nagasaki for Bremen—Mr. H. N. Handelsmann. For Bremerhaven—Messrs. Morgenslem, Hoff, Niepage, Schaedler, Wan, Hartig, and Houvis. For Deli—Misses O. Kozin and M. Tiko. From Hongkong for Bremen—Mr. and Mrs. Reuki and child, Messrs. Thos. Petersen, Hans Larsen, H. C. Jansen. For Southampton—Mr. H. M. Hill. For Genoa—Capt. W. W. Storm and Bendixen. For Singapore—Messrs. N. Bjern and J. Allason.

Per *Sydney*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon—Mrs. C. Brose, Mr. W. D. Graham. For Marseilles—Messrs. M. dos Reis, A. Pedro, and J. L. de Carvalho. From Yokohama for Saigon—Messrs. Hewat, Despax, Osselin, and Mrs. Kanissini. For Singapore—Messrs. Okutsu Kitchinokwa and Shunmura Kintaro. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Cowcourt, Messrs. Motaki Konoto, Abata, Oki, and Rasson. From Kobe for Singapore—Lieut. Hardcastle, Messrs. Banks, Franton, Sasaki, and Yamasaki. For Marseilles—Mr. Thos. Donaldson. From Shanghai for Batavia—Miss Emma Gunther. For Bombay—Messrs. Avasia, Klobukowski (French Consul). For Marseilles—Messrs. Rocher and Ackermann, Sisters St. Vital and St. Felix. Messrs. King and Arnott.

Per *Ulysses*, str., for London—Lieut. W. H. Carey, R. A., Messrs. J. Stephen and Sale.

Per *Zafiro*, str., for Manila—Mr. P. Tucker.

Per *Namoa*, str., for Amoy—Mr. Peter Rickmers. For Foochow—Dr. V. S. Taylor.

Per *Hanoi*, str., for Haiphong—Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Spinney, Messrs. A. Henry, C. A. McAllum, H. Haines, F. Williams, A. Millar, and Rev. Vibert.

Per *Kaiser-i-Hind*, str., for Shanghai from Hongkong—Messrs. H. B. Stableforth, Nombourg, N. K. Antia, and C. M. Adamson. From London—Messrs. J. Bennett and Bennett, Jun. From Brindisi—Messrs. J. Lyon and C. Buchanan. From Bombay—Mrs. and Master Ezra.

Per *Gaelic*, str., for Kobe—Mr. A. Ritchie. For Yokohama—Rev. and Mrs. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Ede, Mrs. Farmer, and Rev. L. L. Comarin. For Honolulu—Capt. Mrs. and Miss Bray. For San Francisco—Mrs. E. Bailey and son, Rev. and Mrs. McFarland, Miss Annie Dunlop, Messrs. Geo. B. McFarland, D. A. Collins, R. H. Roe, and J. R. Ismail Monig. For Vancouver—Mrs. H. Webster. For London—Major A. H. Thomas, Messrs. A. J. Easton, E. F. Gros, and W. A. Overton.